

# **Wantirna South Primary School**

## **Head Lice Policy**

### **Rationale**

While the responsibility for the detection and treatment of head lice rests with parents, it is important that parents are supported through practical advice and a sympathetic attitude to help minimise any possible stigmatisation of those families experiencing difficulties.

This can be achieved through the development of a school based policy to reinforce an accurate, consistent approach to the management of head lice infections.

### ***Expectations***

Based on this rationale the expectations of this policy are: -

- It is the parents' primary responsibility for detection, treatment and control of head lice.
- Parents should refrain from sending children to school who have head lice.
- To reduce stigmatisation and maintain confidentiality of students who may have head lice infections.
- If a child is detected with head lice, the parents will be notified with the expectation that they will be treated before returning to school.

### ***Implementation***

Consistent with these expectations: -

- The school will distribute up to date information on the detection, treatment and control of head lice to parents and staff.
- The school may undertake a whole school head lice inspection regime by qualified personal at intervals determined by the school administration. Parental approval must be received prior to this inspection.
- A letter of notification is to be sent to all parents of a class if head lice infestations are detected on any student in that class.

### ***Other Policies***

This Policy has been developed in accordance with the Department of Education's Professional Development Advisory Guide.

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/profdev/Pages/default.aspx>

### ***Evaluation***

This Policy will be reviewed as part of a five year cycle or as directed by School Council. Review date: May, 2019.

This Policy was ratified by School Council in