

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.
- Exclusion of a student identified with head lice must be handled in accordance with Department guidelines.

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, 2017.

This Policy was ratified by School Council in May 2012