

## 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 will 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.

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