

## HEAD LICE POLICY

### Aims

- To respond to reports of head lice quickly and effectively
- To ensure effective processes for treating head lice are well known and consistently followed.
- To ensure parents and guardians are well informed about head lice and their treatment.

### Rationale

Head lice continue to cause concern and frustration for some parents, teachers and children. This policy is intended to outline roles, responsibilities and expectations of the school community to assist with treating and controlling head lice in a consistent and coordinated manner.

### Implementation

It is the expectation of parents/carers/guardians attending the school that you will:

- Check your children's hair for head lice.
- Not allow your child to attend school with untreated head lice (in accordance with Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2009).
- Tie your child's hair back if it is long
- Treat head lice safely and as recommended.
- Maintain a sympathetic attitude and avoid stigmatising or blaming families who are finding it hard to control head lice.
- Sign an agreement accepting the terms of the School Head Lice Policy.

The school will:

- Provide staff with information regarding the school's policy on Head Lice.
- Provide practical advice and maintain a sympathetic attitude and avoid stigmatising or blaming families who are finding it hard to control head lice.
- Follow the recommendations of the School Exclusion Policy of the Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2009 in that the responsibility to exclude a child from the school rests with the principal or person in charge.
- Only exclude children with live insects.
- Accept the advice of parents that appropriate treatment has commenced.
- Ask families to sign an agreement accepting the conditions of the school's head lice policy.
- Be aware of real difficulties some parents may have and seek extra support if required.
- Give a letter to all children involved in head lice inspections to help reduce the stigma and maintain confidentiality.
- Include teachers and school staff in inspection.

**Evaluation**

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

**Certification**

This policy was endorsed by school council at the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2016

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eva Kavaz', with the word 'Principal' printed below it.

Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eleanora Gilbert', with the date '25/10/16' written below it.

25/10/16  
School Council President

