



Parkmore Primary School

Head Lice Management Policy

1. Definition:

- 1.1. Head lice do not transmit any infectious diseases and most schools will have some students with head lice at any given time.

2. Rationale:

- 2.1. To support and provide consistent and practical advice on the management of head lice in partnership with parents/carers.

3. Aims:

- 3.1. To manage and ultimately reduce outbreaks of head lice at Parkmore Primary School.

4. Implementation:

- 4.1. The role of **students** is to:
 - 4.1.1. Ensure that those with long hair i.e. shoulder-length and longer is tied back whilst at school.
- 4.2. The role of **parents/carers** is to:
 - 4.2.1. Check their child's hair and household members for head lice on a regular basis.
 - 4.2.1.1. In the case of an outbreak of had lice in their child's class, check their child's hair of head lice using the recommended conditioner/combing detection method.
 - 4.2.2. Ensure that their child/ren does not attend school with untreated head lice (Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 2001).
 - 4.2.3. Ensure that children with long hair i.e. shoulder-length and longer is tied back whilst at school.
 - 4.2.4. Notify the school upon detection of head lice and advise when treatment has commenced.
 - 4.2.5. Use only safe and recommended practices to treat head lice.
- 4.3. The role of **staff** is to:
 - 4.3.1. Distribute up-to-date information on the detection, treatment and control of head lice to parents/carers at the beginning of every year and throughout the year as required.
 - 4.3.2. Distribute a letter of notification to parents/carers of those students who are found to have head lice, with a detachable slip asking parents/carers to indicate the treatment used and when it commenced.
 - 4.3.3. Be respectful of families experiencing difficulties with head lice and to maintain confidentiality.

5. Resources:

- Department of Education and Early Childhood Development School Policy and Advisory Guide
Retrieved 23 October 2014, from
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/health/pages/headlice.aspx>
- Victorian Government Health Information Resources – Head Lice
Retrieved 23 October 2014, from
<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/headlice/>
- Pediculosis or head lice – Blue Book
Retrieved 23 October 2014, from
<http://ideas.helath.vic.gov.au/bluebook/pediculosis.asp>
- Head Lice Management Toolkit
Retrieved 23 October 2014, from
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/health/Pages/headlice.aspx>

6. Evaluation:

- 6.1.1. This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.
Review Date: 2017

This policy was last ratified by School Council in: **November 2014**