



HEAD LICE

PURPOSE

When children are at school most families will have contact with head lice. The school acknowledges its role in supporting families by providing clear processes and accurate information so that student absences due to head lice are kept to a minimum and the spread of head lice is contained.

AIMS

- To support families in the prevention and treatment of head lice
- To provide parents with up to date information about head lice
- To set clear protocols for any head lice inspection
- To contain any spreading of head lice at Murrumbeena Primary School

GUIDELINES

- All families to be provided with
 - The school head lice policy, published on the school's website
 - Copies of 'Treating and Controlling Head Lice' produced by Department of Health VIC
- There will be a nominated head lice resource person at the school who parents can contact with further queries.
- Clear protocols to be implemented, including use of a pro-forma to obtain written parental permission for all head lice inspections.
(See Appendix One- Consent form for Head lice Inspections and Appendix 2- Inform parent of head lice inspection)
- A return to school declaration form to be handed to the office upon returning to school and a further form to be returned after the second treatment
(See Appendix Four – Return to School Declaration)
- A proforma letter to be given to all students involved in inspections. (See Appendix Three)
- Commitment to help reduce stigma and maintain confidentiality following head lice inspections.
- Exclusion of children who have head lice until all treatment has commenced and all eggs are removed.
(This may include children being sent home during the day)

EVALUATION

- Monitoring of above processes by the Education and Communication Committee
- Informal feedback from parents and teachers about procedures
- Formal monitoring of head lice incidences

APPENDIX ONE

CONSENT FORM TO CONDUCT HEAD LICE INSPECTIONS

Permission to cover the duration of the student's school at:
Murrumbeena Primary School.



When children are at school most families will have contact with head lice. The school acknowledges its role in supporting families by providing clear processes and accurate information so that student absences due to head lice are kept to a minimum and the spread of head lice is contained.

The following process is followed:

When a staff member suspects a student has head lice the First Aid Officer is asked to check the child's hair.

The First Aid Officer will check through the student's hair to see if any lice or eggs are present.

In cases where head lice are found, the person inspecting the student will inform the student's teacher and the school office. The school will make appropriate contact with the parents/guardians/carers. Appendix two and four will be sent home along with an information pamphlet from the Department of Health Victoria. The school will then send a message to parents advising them to check their child's hair due to a confirmed case of head lice in the class (appendix three).

The parent /carer will:

- treat the child's hair and remove eggs
- check the hair of all family members
- Ensure the treatment program is completed in full
- Complete the 'Return to School Declaration' (appendix four) and return the form to school.

HEAD LICE INSPECTION CONSENT FORM

I hereby give my consent / do not give my consent (*please circle*)

for my child _____ (*name*)

to participate in the school's head lice inspection program for the duration of their schooling at this school.

Signature of parent/guardian/carer: Date.....

APPENDIX TWO

Notification of Head Lice Inspection

Date

Dear Parents,

Today your child was checked for head lice.

Your child was found to have either lice or nits. Could you please treat with appropriate lotion and ensure that all eggs are removed from the hair before your child returns to school.

A Return to School Declaration form has been included for you to complete.

Regards

Principal

APPENDIX THREE

Notification of head lice present in classroom

HEAD LICE

Reports of Head Lice in your classroom have recently been received. Please check your child's hair carefully for any evidence of lice or nits (lice eggs) and treat with the appropriate solutions available from your local pharmacist. Washing hair is not sufficient to eradicate head lice. It is recommended that all family members are checked and all brushes and combs are washed. Linen and recently worn clothes should be washed and ironed with a hot iron or dried in a clothes dryer.

Children are required under the Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1990 to be excluded from school until they have been treated. On returning to school, parents must complete a form certifying appropriate treatment has taken place.

Principal

APPENDIX FOUR Return to School Declaration

Notification that appropriate head lice treatment has commenced

Return to School Declaration

Notification that appropriate head lice treatment has commenced

Please return this section to your child's school when appropriate head lice treatment has commenced (after first application of head lice treatment and removal of eggs).

I, _____ (parent/guardian), have treated my child,
_____ (name), for head lice and agree to undertake a full
head lice treatment program until such time that my child is free of lice and eggs.

Treatment used: _____ Date applied: _____

Second treatment due date: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Teacher use:

Return to school date (initial treatment): _____

Notification that treatment has been completed (second treatment) provided

Date: _____

Teacher's name: _____



Notification that appropriate head lice treatment has been completed

Please return this section to your child's school when appropriate head lice treatment has been completed (after second application of head lice treatment and removal of eggs).

I, _____ (parent/guardian), have completed treatment of my child,
_____ (name), for head lice.

Treatment used: _____

Date of second application: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____