SORRENTO PRIMARY SCHOOL
HEAD LICE POLICY

Ratified: 21/5/13

PURPOSE
> To assist parents/guardian and the school with the management of head lice.

BROAD GUIDELINES
> Head lice do not pose any serious health risks, but they can be difficult to manage.
> Most schools will have some students with head lice at any given time.
> The primary responsibility for the detection and treatment of head lice rests with parents.
> Parents should be supported by the school through practical advice.

IMPLEMENTATION
> Up to date information on the detection, safe treatment and control of head lice will be disseminated to parents/guardians as required.
> The school will inspect for head lice on at least a term by term basis and more frequently where possible.
> Parental agreement to head lice checks will be sought in written form at the time of enrolment.
> Parents to be notified in written form of those students found to have head lice and/or eggs.
> Students with shoulder length hair will tie their hair back.
> A letter will be given to all students following head lice inspections, not just those who have head lice.
> Training sessions offered on a needs basis for parents to educate them about appropriate and inexpensive treatments which can be undertaken at home.
> Parents/Guardians are:
  ✓ to refrain from sending their children to school with untreated head lice;
  ✓ encouraged to inspect their child’s hair for lice/eggs at least once a week – using conditioner and a head lice comb is the most effective method;
  ✓ to notify the school if their child is affected;
  ✓ to return the Action Taken Form if they have been notified that their child has head lice.
> In the event of live lice being found parents/guardians are:
  ✓ to treat their child prior to returning to school;
  ✓ recommended to reassess their child every second day, over the period of a week and then reassess weekly.
> Volunteers who check for head lice will:
  ✓ be approved by School Council;
  ✓ be trained in identifying head lice.
assist to reduce the stigma of having head lice by maintaining student confidentiality.

EVALUATION

- Reduction in the number of cases of head lice.
- Parent feedback.