



SORRENTO PRIMARY SCHOOL HEAD LICE POLICY

Reviewed: 16th May, 2016

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.