



## **HEAD LICE POLICY**

### **PURPOSE**

To increase awareness of the need for the detection and treatment of head lice outbreaks in the school.

### **GOALS**

- To educate the school community on the prevention, detection and treatment of head lice.
- To reduce the misinformation associated with head lice.

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

- Consent forms regarding the inspection of hair are completed on enrolment.
- Notices will be sent home with every child advising when an inspection has been carried out.
- Staff members suspecting that a child may have head lice are to report their concerns to the Principal who will contact the parents.
- Upon positive identification of head lice including eggs, the Principal will ensure that the parents of any infected child are contacted as soon as possible and informed that their child is to be excluded from attending school in accordance with the Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1996 until the children have been treated.
- If live head lice are detected parents will be advised and the child will be isolated from contact with others by remaining in the sick bay until they have been collected.
- The Principal or identified staff member will also provide parents or infected children with information about head lice treatment and prevention.
- The Principal will ensure that information relating to the prevention and eradication of head lice appears throughout the year in the school newsletter, particularly at times of heavy outbreaks.
- Regular home based screening is to be encouraged.
- Children with long hair will be encouraged to tie it back.
- Notification letters are sent home advising when lice are detected in a class.

### **EVALUATION:**

- Monitor number of confirmed infestations.

**This Policy was ratified by School Council – April 2015**