



## Head Lice Policy

### Rationale

I hope that the parents or guardians of children with head lice, will work with me to treat and prevent the spread of the infection. I also ask that all children and parents or guardians are sensitive and understanding towards the subject of head lice, as it is not the fault of the child that is infected. Head Lice can affect people from any area or walk of like. They do not discriminate between socio-economic background and ethnicity. It also does not imply a lack of hygiene or cleanliness.

Children with head lice will not be excluded from my care, but I would ask that these recommendations are followed in order to try and prevent other children becoming infected.

### Procedure

- Parents/Carers are to inform me immediately if they have discovered that their child has head lice.
- Children with long hair, to wear their hair up to prevent the spread of infection
- Parents/Carers to check their child's hair at least once a week, preferably with a special head lice comb.
- I will provide information on effective treatment and detection of headlice via my portfolio.
- If I detect a child in my care has head lice, I will inform the parents of the other children in my care. I will not disclose which child is infected so as to maintain the confidentiality of the child and parents.
- I will assist in the prevention of head lice by ensuring the children only use their own hairbrushes and combs, and that the dressing up hats and accessories are regularly cleaned.

NHS UK has useful information and guidance on the prevention and treatment of head lice at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

Date policy was written	June 2019
Policy review date	June 2020
Action/Amendments to be taken following review	