



## HEAD LICE POLICY

### PURPOSE

To prevent and control the transmission of Pediculosis or head lice.

### POLICY

Footscray City Primary School controls the spread of head lice in 3 ways:

1. exclusion from school
2. communication
3. visual head lice checks in schools

#### Exclusion from school

When a student is identified with live head lice and/or eggs the school will:

- Contact the parent/carer and request they collect the student as soon as practicably possible.
- Exclude the student from school until the day after treatment has commenced, as set out in the Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2019, School Exclusion Table – refer to the health.vic website: School Exclusion Table <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/school-exclusion/school-exclusion-table>

There is no requirement for a general practitioner to issue a clearance certificate in order for the child/children to return to school.

#### Communication

Footscray City Primary School will alert families of a head lice infestation via Compass of students in the same year level as the affected child or children.

Discretion will be used to avoid identifying individuals when informing the school community about an infestation.

#### Visual head lice checks schools

There is no requirement for schools to undertake head lice inspection programs. However, if schools wish to do so, they can conduct checks via visual checks only without physical contact which:

- do not require parent or carer consent
- are made by people authorised by the principal, for example, classroom teachers



## Parent Detection and Treatment Responsibilities

Parents and carers have the primary responsibility for the detection and treatment of head lice.

Responsibilities include:

- not sending their children to school with untreated head lice
- using safe treatment practices which do not place their child's health at risk
- regularly checking for lice or eggs in the hair of their child and other household members
- notifying the school if their child is affected and when treatment commenced

## REVIEW CYCLE

Date Implemented	September 2020
Author	Jessie Hand
Approved By	Principal
Approval Authority (Signature & Date)	
Responsible for Review	Principal
Review Date	September 2022
References	