



Chilwell Primary School

"Learning for Life"

No.2061

Gavan Welsh – Principal

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POLICY:

HEADLICE

1. Rationale:

To ensure head lice outbreaks are effectively prevented and/or managed.

2. Aims:

- 2.1 To provide a service to students within the school to control head lice by alerting parents when they are present.
- 2.2 To develop awareness throughout the school community of the need to stringently follow procedures to minimise head lice outbreaks within the school.

3. Implementation:

- 3.1 Volunteers from the parent body will be enlisted to check children's hair once or twice per term or as deemed necessary. Checks will be carried out at the end of the second week of each term (depending on volunteer availability) and follow up checks carried out one week later on cases found. The volunteers will have a medical or health services background where possible or be trained by current checkers.
- 3.2 Lice are spread through direct head contact, hats, helmets, and hair brushes therefore students will not share these items. Head lice do not fly.
- 3.3 Students who have head lice will be excluded from school until hair is treated and all signs of lice and nits (eggs) have gone. On discovery of head lice, parents will be contacted by the principal or his/her delegate (not the volunteer checker) and asked to collect the affected child. Parents will have all procedures explained to them and will be given literature regarding head lice management. A letter will go home to all children in an "affected class" alerting parents to check their children's hair.
- 3.4 Only children whose parents have given written consent to head lice checks will be checked by the volunteers. Other parents will be advised through the newsletter when checks are to be carried out and asked to diligently check their own children at home.
- 3.5 During head lice outbreaks at school, parental and student support will be actively canvassed through the newsletter, personal contact and through distribution of head lice information literature.

Ratified: This policy has been ratified by School Council – October 2016.

Review: Biennially