



# Head Lice Policy

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## Revision History

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Reason for most Recent Revision</b>
v1.0	March 2015	Reviewed and reissued as per guidelines in WS-PRO-001.
v2.0	December 2018	Minor changes
v2.1	January 2022	Reviewed - no changes.
v2.2	January 2025	Reviewed - no changes.



# HEAD LICE POLICY

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## 1 Introduction

The purpose of this policy is to provide information that will achieve a consistent and collaborative approach to the school community in the management of head lice.

This policy is intended to outline roles, responsibilities and expectations of the school community to assist with treating and controlling head lice in a consistent and coordinated manner.

Whilst parents have the primary responsibility for the detection and treatment of head lice, the School will work in a cooperative and collaborative manner to assist families to manage head lice effectively.

## 2 Roles & Responsibilities

### 2.1 Parents and Carers will:

- Check children's hair for head lice at home on a regular basis. If live lice are found, the child does not attend school until treatment is carried out and no live lice remain in the hair
- Regularly inspect all household members and treat appropriately if lice are found
- Notify the School if their child is found to have live lice and advise the School when appropriate treatment has been commenced
- Reduce the risk of the spread of head lice by tying back children's long hair for school.

### 2.2 St Christopher's School will:

- Support parents / carers and the school community to achieve a consistent, collaborative approach to head lice management
- Distribute up to date and accurate information on the detection, treatment and control of head lice to parents and staff at the beginning of the school year or more frequently if required
- Include information and updates on the issue of head lice if identification of lice within the School occurs
- Provide practical advice - including combing hair daily with a Nitty Gritty comb for 2 weeks, a sympathetic attitude and confidentiality to parents who are experiencing difficulty with lice control measures
- Inform parents when live lice or eggs (nits) have been noticed on their child's head by direct telephone contact by the School Nurse
- Only exclude children from school with live lice – this will be implemented at the end of the school day in line with contemporary world health and educational practices
- Send home a note to parents when head lice have been detected on a pupil in their child's class
- Maintain confidentiality
- Educate pupils about head lice to encourage accurate identification, reporting and to minimise the transfer of lice whilst also minimising stigma associated with having lice.