

## HEAD LICE (December 2014)

### RATIONALE

- While the primary responsibility for the detection and treatment of head lice rests with parents, Edithvale Primary School will play a supportive role in the management of head lice infections and in providing support for parents & students.

### AIMS

- To create and maintain a well-informed community, able to confidently manage head lice infections in its members.
- To minimise any stigma or anxiety associated with head lice infection.
- To reduce the incidence of head lice.

### GUIDELINES

- The school will distribute information on the detection, treatment and control of head lice to parents and staff at the beginning of the school year or as required.
- A head lice management plan will be set in place in order to give parents and teachers clear guidelines to follow.
- The school will facilitate head lice checks twice per year by a trained service provider. If you do not wish your child to be checked, you need to notify us in writing prior to the scheduled checks. (Dates will be noted in the school newsletter).
- A pro forma letter of notification will be given to parents of those students found to have eggs.
- In cases where head lice are found, the person inspecting the student will inform the office staff who will then notify the parent/guardian/carer.
- Students with long hair will be encouraged to tie their hair back to minimise the spreading of lice.
- Classroom activities will promote understanding of the habits and life cycle of head lice in order to minimize the incidence of stigmatisation of particular students and families.
- Parents are encouraged to make regular inspections of their child/ren's hair for lice and lice eggs.
- All parents of students in a class which has had an incidence of head lice will be informed and asked to check their child for head lice.
- Parents must notify the school if head lice are present and advise when treatment has commenced. The school will then advise all parents of the class that an incident of lice has occurred within the class.

RATIFIED BY SCHOOL COUNCIL ON	December 2014
PRINCIPAL	Denise Webster
SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT	Martin Taylor
EVALUATION	This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three year review cycle, or as required due to changes in relevant Acts, Laws or should situations arise that require earlier consideration.