



Stella Maris Primary School

Pediculosis Policy

Due to the continuous occurrence of head lice throughout the school, the development of a formal written policy on pediculosis has been required.

Stella Maris will employ a pediculosis nurse as deemed necessary, which ensures all children's hair is checked regularly throughout the year. The frequency of lice detection may necessitate staff members also examining children's hair. Parents should contact the school if they find a case of headlice on their child.

Expectations

That all children with hair at shoulder length or longer, wear their hair tied back at all times.

Once nits or eggs have been detected, parents are to be contacted by the nurse, or a member of staff and treatment should commence at home. Live lice detected will mean separation from the rest of the class, the parent informed, and the child immediately withdrawn from the school. Brothers and sisters in other grades will also be examined.

Parents should treat their child's hair using an appropriate head lice preparation as per the 1998 Human Services recommendations. These include the following

- KP24 Lice Rid
- Human Services recommends liquids with Permethrins.
- Mixture of vinegar and olive oil.

Parents should ensure that all eggs, dead or alive, are removed. A clearance certificate must be obtained from the council before the child returns to school.

Recommendations

After initial treatment, parents should check the child daily to ensure all eggs have been removed. Another treatment should be administered within seven days.

All other family members should be treated with the head lice preparation.

All bed linen, teddybears, etc. should be washed. This is vital to breaking the life cycle of the head lice.

All parents in the school should be encouraged to wash school hats regularly.

Borrowing of school hats will not be permitted.

Children are not allowed to return to school after lice has been detected unless cleared by the school pediculosis nurse.



This policy will be reviewed biannually

This policy was last reviewed in February 2012