

Bowesfield Primary School



**Bowesfield
Primary School**

Headlice Policy

Approved by the Governing Body 16.7.20.

Review date: July 2022

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Policy for the Prevention of Headlice

The UN Convention on the rights of the child

Article 24 (health and health services)

Every child has the right to the best possible health.

Through the consistent application of this policy we aim to work with parents / carers and public health to raise awareness of how to prevent and treat headlice and to reduce incidents of headlice infestation. All children are asked to tie their hair back for school, if it is long enough.

If a member of staff sees live lice in any child's hair the following action will be taken;

1. Parent / carer will be contacted by telephone and asked to collect the child for immediate treatment.
2. Parent / carer to collect the child and treat using the wet comb method. School will provide details of how to contact health professionals for advice.
3. The child will be returned to school as soon as possible, once the live lice have been removed from their hair. Any absence due to headlice is unauthorised.
4. The parent / carer can then treat all members of the family later that day with live lice using either a recommended lotion or the wet comb method. Combs and brushes should also be cleaned.
5. A note is sent home with all children, asking parents / carers to check for lice or nits and to treat as required.

Headlice are easily passed on from child to child and within families. Cases of headlice alone are NOT an indicator of neglect.

However recurrent and persistent headlice infestations which are left untreated could be a possible indicator of neglect and so recording incidents and contact with parents / carers regarding headlice is crucial as part of keeping children safe. Incidents and contacts must be recorded on CPOMS.

Support provided to parents / carers:

Contact details for Public Health nurse – who can advise and educate regarding treatment and prescribe lotion / combs

Support from Pastoral Support Adviser – Claire Cotterill