



Holland Moor Primary School



Head Lice Management Policy

Responsible Person-Mrs Naomi Holland – Holland Moor Inclusion Manager

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the management of head lice (pediculosis) within Holland Moor Primary School, ensuring the health and well-being of all students while minimising disruption to the educational process.

2. Definition

Head lice are small, wingless insects that live on the scalp and feed on human blood. They are primarily spread through direct head-to-head contact.

3. Symptoms of Infestation

- Itching or a tickling feeling on the scalp
- Red or sore spots on the scalp
- Visible lice or nits (lice eggs) in the hair, especially near the scalp

4. Detection and Reporting

- Parents are encouraged to regularly check their children's hair for signs of head lice.
- If a child is found to have head lice, parents should inform the school promptly.
- School staff will also be vigilant and report any suspected cases of head lice to the designated staff member.

5. Treatment

- Parents are responsible for treating their child's head lice infestation.
- The school will provide information on effective treatments, including over-the-counter and prescription options.
- It is important to follow treatment instructions carefully and to check all household members.

6. School Response

- Upon discussion / suspicion of head lice, the school will:
- Notify parents of the affected child and provide information on treatment.
- Inform other parents in the affected class or year group, without disclosing the identity of the affected child.
- Students with head lice will not be excluded from school; however, they should begin treatment as soon as possible.

7. Follow-Up



- Parents are encouraged to check their child's hair regularly after treatment to ensure that all lice and nits have been removed.

8. Education and Prevention

- The school will provide educational materials for parents and students about head lice prevention and treatment.
- Awareness sessions may be held to inform the school community about head lice and promote proactive measures.

9. Confidentiality

- The school will maintain confidentiality regarding any students affected by head lice and will handle all communications sensitively.

10. Review of Policy

- This policy will be reviewed regularly and updated as necessary to reflect current best practices and public health guidelines.

Conclusion

This policy aims to support students affected by head lice while fostering a caring and informed school environment. Collaboration among parents, staff, and students is essential for effective management and prevention of head lice infestations.