



## Headlice Policy

### Rationale

While children are at school there is a high chance that many families will have contact with head lice. The following information will help to treat and control head lice. People get head lice from direct hair to hair contact with another person who have head lice. This can happen when people work closely together. Families are encouraged to regularly inspect their child/children's hair for lice or eggs using the conditioner and head lice comb method.

### Aims

- To ensure that parents and guardians accept the primary responsibility for the detection and treatment of head lice.
- To respond to reports of head lice quickly and effectively at school.
- To ensure that an efficient process for treating head lice is well known and consistently followed.
- To ensure that parents are well informed about head lice treatments.

### Actions

- Rosanna Golf Links will provide up-to-date information on the detection, treatment and control of head lice to parents/guardians and staff at the beginning of every year and more frequently if required (available from website <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/headlice/>).
- When head lice are detected, the parents of the infected child are to be notified.
- Regular updates will appear in the school newsletter concerning current processes for prevention and treatment of head lice.
- An authorised person is one who has been nominated by the Principal to conduct head inspections to check for head lice. This person must be acquainted with head check procedures.
- Consent forms for head lice inspection will be given to all new enrolments.
- Where head lice are detected on a child at school:
  - Parents/Caregivers will be contacted to advise of presence of head lice,
  - The child will be isolated from other students until the end of the school day or the student is collected by a parent/care giver,
  - An authorised person may be called to conduct head lice inspections on any siblings at the school,
  - Information will be provided to the parent regarding the current treatment processes which according to best advice do not place students' health at risk,
  - A head lice notification form will be sent home to all children in the grade. The child is able to return to school the day after treatment has commenced,
  - An authorised person may conduct a follow up head lice inspection a week after the return of the child to school.
- Where there is a second notification in a grade within a week, a whole grade inspection may be conducted by an authorised person.
- Where children are frequently identified as having head lice, contact will be made with the parents to provide assistance with treatment and control methods.
- Children with hair at or below shoulder length are required to tie hair back.

### Review

This policy will be reviewed as part of the RGLPS review cycle.