



MILDURA WEST  
PRIMARY SCHOOL  
*Making our Mark*

## HEAD LICE POLICY

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Authorised by:

Head lice (pediculosis) are tiny insect that live on the human scalp where they feed and breed. While they do not carry or transmit disease, they are the most common cause of head itch and scratching which may lead to infection and swollen lymph glands. [Dept of Health, Victoria]

**Anyone** can catch head lice. Head lice cannot fly, jump or hop. They spread from person to person by head contact and by sharing personal items such as brushes, combs and hats.

Mildura West Primary School will:

- Carry out regular, whole-school head lice checks.
- Recommend parents / carers to be vigilant in checking their own children's hair regularly.
- Provide written information about head lice to families.
- Carry out re-entry checks of children returning to school after treatment.
- Notify the school community of the presence of head lice in the school by class note or newsletter.

The School Principal will:

- Ensure that staff carrying out head lice checks are appropriately trained
- Confidentially notify parents / carers of affected children by closed letter and by phone call.
- Request parents / carers to keep children at home while head lice being treated.
- Exclude students from school if head lice remain untreated.

Parents are required to:

- Notify the school if they detect evidence of head lice
- Treat children as soon as head lice is detected
- Keep children at home until treatment is completed (this process should take no longer than a day). Children will be excluded from school until evidence of treatment is provided.
- Return the tear-off portion of the School Managed Head Lice Program Note – Notification of Treatment.