



## St Peter's C of E (Aided) Primary School

Little Green Lane, Farnham, Surrey, GU9 8TF

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[www.stpeters-farnham.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.stpeters-farnham.surrey.sch.uk)



### Our Vision Statement

*At St Peter's we have high expectations where everyone flourishes, achieves and succeeds within a safe, inclusive Christian community. We promote gospel values of independence, respect and empathy. Through an exciting curriculum, children are inspired to find joy as lifelong learners and active world citizens.*

### HEAD LICE POLICY

Person Responsible:	Children & Learning Policy
Review Period:	Every 3 years or in light of new regulations
Status:	Recommended
Date Adopted:	Summer Term 2023
Next review:	Summer Term 2026
Ratified by Governors:	Summer 2023

### Rationale

St Peter's C of E Primary School is aware of the national problem of head lice and how it can sometimes affect children of a primary school age at home and in school. This policy attempts to set out the duties and responsibilities of parents, the school and the Health Authorities in dealing with head lice. It sets out what school can and cannot do legally as well as providing some practical advice as to how to tackle head lice.

### Parents', Carers', Guardians' Duties

As the carer of a child you should:

- Undertake regular weekly and where appropriate daily checks to ensure that your child/family is not affected. This should be done with a detector comb. All family members should be checked.
- Treat if necessary, straight away
- Inform all contacts of the family and friends who may have come in to contact for a minute or more in the last month
- Use appropriate lotions and treat using this method in the recommended way

### School will undertake to:

- Provide information about Headlice on an annual basis and more regularly if many cases arise
- Alert parents, class or year group via a text, letter or email if an outbreak is noted in school
- Alert individual parents by letter or phone call if a more persistent case is noted in school

### The school by law cannot:

- Carry out physical checks on pupils for head lice
- Tell parents to keep children away from school because of head lice
- Exclude a child from school because of head lice



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## Advice for Parents & Carers

### PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO READ THIS NOW AND KEEP FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

As you will know, incidents of head lice in school can be a recurring problem. Therefore, we all need to be vigilant to keep on top of the problem.

- Head lice are spread by climbing from head to head. They cannot fly, jump or swim.
- Head lice lay their eggs on the hairs near the roots. Old eggs are found on the hairs further along as the hair grows, and the empty egg cases are called nits.
- It does not make any difference whether hair is long or short, clean or dirty.
- To help with the problem, please keep hair tied back.

### Wet combing method

It is possible to treat head lice without the use of harmful chemicals. If you find lice, you can use the following recommended wet combing method:

- Wash hair in the normal way with an ordinary shampoo.
- Using lots of conditioner and while the hair is very wet, comb through from the roots with a fine toothcomb. Make sure that the teeth of the comb slot into the hair at the roots with every stroke, and do this over a pale surface, such as a paper towel or the bath.
- Clean the lice off the comb between each stroke.
- Wet lice find it difficult to escape, and the hair, which is slippery from conditioner, makes it hard for them to keep a grip - so removal with the comb is easier.
- If you find lice, **REPEAT EVERY 3 - 4 DAYS FOR TWO WEEKS**, so that any lice emerging from the eggs are removed before they can spread.

If **EVERYONE** tries to follow these guidelines, the chances of re-infestation will be greatly reduced. For further information visit: <http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/Head-lice/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

## Thank you for your support