

Headlice Policy

The Head Lice Policy outlines the roles and responsibilities of Win Newby Kindergarten staff and community members in order to control Head Lice. This policy draws on information obtained from the Department of Human Services publication Healthy Heads - Without Headlice and the Department of Education and Child Developments' publication Headlice – the role of preschools and schools in community Head Lice control.

All members of this preschool community will work in a cooperative and collaborative manner to assist families to manage Head Lice effectively.

Evidence shows that we cannot eradicate Head Lice but we can reduce the number of cases if all preschool staff and community members work together in a coordinated manner.

At Win Newby Kindergarten, if staff, suspect that a child has Head Lice they will:

1. Check the child's hair if they are scratching excessively only if parents have given permission to do so. (Permission is included on enrolment)
2. If staff find live Head Lice and or eggs in children's hair, parents are then informed and they are required to take the child home for treatment.
3. The child is not to return to Kindergarten until the following day after treatment, ensuring there are no Head Lice and eggs left in hair.

Parents are to be contacted and approached discretely and in a sensitive manner. Staff will provide more information to parents if they require this.

Staff will inform other parents and the community through letters and a sign on the gate, ensuring full confidentiality is considered.

Parents are also required to contact staff if they find that their child has Head Lice, so that precautionary measures can be taken for the Kindergarten Community.