



INSPIRING FUTURES PARTNERSHIP TRUST

HEAD LICE POLICY

Policy Type	Health and Safety
Updated by	Victoria Morris
Updated in	April 2019
Review due	April 2021

Inspiring Futures Partnership Trust

Head Lice Policy

Head lice are tiny insects that live in human hair. They are particularly common in children and are passed from head to head by close contact.

When there is an outbreak of head lice in any year group the academy will:

- Contact the parent of any child with eggs or live lice
- Give the parents of the affected child the option to collect their child immediately to carry out treatment if they wish
- Send out a blanket letter to parents across the relevant year group, informing them that there is a case of headlice and explaining how to check and treat their child.
- Remove headwear from the dressing up areas for a brief period.

The academy will not:

- Insist that parents collect their child immediately
- Ask parents to keep a child a home until they have been treated
- Name any child in the head lice notification letter
- Examine children's heads.

Advice that Trust staff can give to parents:

- Check the **whole family's** heads regularly, especially at the back of the neck and behind the ears
- If lice or eggs are found, wet combing thoroughly with a special comb from a pharmacy to remove as many as possible is recommended
- Do wet combing on days 1, 5, 9 and 13 to catch any newly hatched head lice. Check again that everyone's hair is free of lice on day 17.
- Washing bed clothes and towels is unnecessary.
- NHS Choices and local pharmacists can advise on other further over-the-counter treatments.