

Head Lice Outbreak

Following an outbreak of head lice in the area and a few cases here at school, the school is recommending that each child be thoroughly examined and treated at home. Please find below a guide of how to identify, treat and break the head lice cycle.

1. Check your child's hair for live lice and either yellowish white eggs (live nits) or brown or black eggs (dead nits). Hatched eggs are white and flat, like grains of salt or dandruff.
2. Treat your child's hair, please consult with your pharmacist about which product is best suited for your child. Re-treatment should be carried out about 7 days after the first treatment to kill off any juvenile lice that may have hatched since the first treatment.
Remove eggs and lice by using a metal comb and egg remover or combing solution.

A suggestion to help in the prevention of head lice is to add a few drops of tea tree oil or eucalyptus oil to a water sprayer used to wet your child's hair in the morning. You still need to check your child's hair on a regular basis for head lice.

Further information can be provided by your local pharmacy or you can go to the following website for a Public Health Fact Sheet on Head Lice,
<http://www.health.qld.gov.au/phs/Documents/cdu/13368.pdf>