

JUNEE PRESCHOOL POLICIES

Head Lice Policy

Quality Area 2: Children's Health and Safety

Policy Statement

Our Preschool is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all children, staff and any other persons attending the service. We have a duty of care to all children, staff and families who use our service, and therefore need to take preventative measures to ensure head lice outbreaks are contained.

Goals / What are we going to do?

We will endeavour to protect the children, staff, families and visitors to our Preschool from getting head lice.

Strategies / How will it be done?

In the event of head lice or eggs being noticed in a child's hair, to limit the spread of head lice to other children we will:

- ◁ contact the child's parent/guardian and ask them to collect the child from the Preschool for treatment.
- ◁ contact an authorised nominee in the event that the parent/guardian is unable to be contacted, requesting them to collect the child from Preschool.
- ◁ provide information on treatment to the person collecting the child, including different forms of treatment, where they are able to get products to treat the child's hair, strategies to eradicate all eggs, and additional information on head lice if needed.
- ◁ inform the parent/guardian of the child that the child may not return to Preschool until the head lice/eggs have been successfully treated.
- ◁ put up a notification to inform families that their children have been in contact with head lice so that parents/guardians are able to remain vigilant for lice in their child's hair.

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Roles and Responsibilities

Approved Provider

- ◁ ensuring that information from the Department of Health about the recommended minimum exclusion periods is displayed at the service, with the exception of head lice noted on the display.
- ◁ maintaining confidentiality at all times.
- ◁ provide relevant sourced materials to families.

Nominated Supervisor

- ◁ ensuring staff have up to date information on the effective treatment of head lice.
- ◁ providing families with information on the effective treatment of head lice.
- ◁ providing families with a copy of the Preschool head lice policy on enrolment at the service to ensure they are aware that children will be excluded until head lice have been successfully treated.
- ◁ displaying a notification of the presence of head lice in a prominent position.
- ◁ ensuring the confidentiality of each child is maintained, and that each child is treated with dignity and respect.

Early Childhood Educators

- ◁ notifying parents/guardians immediately if they notice head lice or eggs in a child's hair and asking them to collect their child as soon as possible.
- ◁ ensuring the child is not treated differently or segregated because they have head lice.
- ◁ ensuring confidentiality is maintained and the privacy and dignity of the child are upheld.
- ◁ providing the family with information about the effective treatment of head lice, including the removal of all eggs.

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- ◁ ensuring that families in the Preschool are made aware that their child has been exposed to head lice, while maintaining the anonymity of the source, to enable them to be vigilant.
- ◁ making sure the parents/guardians are aware that the child may not attend Preschool until the head lice have been successfully treated.

Families

- ◁ reading and understanding this policy.
- ◁ ensuring they are vigilant in watching for signs of head lice in their child.
- ◁ if their child has head lice, ensuring they do not attend Preschool until the head lice are effectively treated.
- ◁ notifying staff if they become aware that their child has head lice.