



Sledmere C of E (VC) Primary School

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Dear Parent/Carer

We have had reports of live head lice at school. We are therefore asking you to check your child's hair.

It is vital that every child's head is checked to determine whether or not there are lice present. The method we are advising is wet-combing (detailed below).

Wet Combing Procedure:

- Wash and rinse the hair in the normal way with your regular shampoo.
- Check the water for any lice.
- While the hair is still wet, apply plenty of conditioner and comb through to detangle with a normal comb. Using a fine-toothed head lice detector comb (available from the school office or your local pharmacy), slot the teeth of the comb into the hair at the roots so that the comb touches the scalp and draw the comb through to the ends of the strands. At the end of every stroke check the comb for evidence of lice then wipe and rinse the comb before the next stroke.
- The conditioner lubricates the hair making combing easier and is washed out at the end wet-combing the full head.
- If any lice are found, this routine should be continued every four days for a period of two weeks.
- It is advisable to use this routine on a regular basis eg weekly so that any lice present can be detected early.
- If you find live lice please notify your child's class teacher and also check all members of the family using the wet-combing method. Go to your local pharmacy to receive advice and treatment. Pharmacies participating in the East Riding Pharmacy Care Scheme provide free head lice treatment to people registered with an East Riding General Practitioner who have evidence of live lice and who are exempt from NHS prescription charges. You will need to take along NHS numbers or you will be asked permission by the pharmacist to access these numbers confidentially via an electronic health record.
- It is helpful if you also inform anyone with whom your child has had close contact with eg Cub's, Brownies, friends, extended family etc.

If you require any further advice or help about the problem of head lice please do not hesitate to contact your school nurse, pharmacist or family doctor.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Richardson
Executive Headteacher

