

## PR/Communications Department

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## Headlice

### What are head lice?

Head lice and their eggs are commonly found in hair. They do not respect social class and actually prefer clean hair. Head lice are not dangerous but are an inconvenience which every person is likely to experience at some time. The louse eggs hatch to produce more lice and move from one person to another. The school nurses regularly check hair and we will inform you personally if your child has head lice.

### Symptoms

The head louse can cause an itchy scalp but is difficult to see. Their eggs often look like dandruff, which is stuck to a hair and are clear to whitish in colour. The lice are small and a whitish/brownish colour.

### Treatment

- The treatment is simple and inexpensive. To ensure that your entire family is clear of head lice the treatment must include the whole family. Using a normal shampoo is not enough to kill the lice or the eggs. A special treatment shampoo such as **Anti-Bit and Paranit** must be used. Please note shampoo should be used immediately by the **entire** family if any member has head lice.
- Change and wash all bedlinen, particularly pillow cases and sheets.
- Wash all brushes and combs with "Anti-Bit".
- Wash all clothing which was used that day.
- Encourage children not to share combs and brushes.
- Your child will not be allowed to attend school with head lice or eggs in their hair. Once their hair is clear, your child can return to school subject to check by the Campus Nurse.

The above steps should be followed carefully to ensure the treatment is effective.

For any further information please contact our Campus Nurses.