



CONSENT FORM TO CONDUCT HEAD LICE INSPECTIONS
Permission to cover the duration of the student's school at
COMET HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Throughout your child's schooling, the school will be arranging head lice inspections of students.

The management of head lice infection works best when all children are involved in our screening program.

The school is aware that this can be a sensitive issue and is committed to maintaining student confidentiality and avoiding stigmatisation.

The inspections of students will be conducted by a trained person approved by the principal and school council and who has signed a Head Lice Confidentiality Agreement.

Before any inspections are conducted the person conducting the inspections will explain to all students what is being done and why and it will be emphasised to students that the presence of head lice in their hair does not mean that their hair is less clean or well kept than anyone else's. It will also be pointed out that head lice can be itchy and annoying and if you know you have got them, you can do something about it.

The person conducting the inspections will check through each student's hair to see if any lice or eggs are present.

Person's authorised by the school principal may also visually check your child's hair for the presence of head lice, when it is suspected that head lice may be present. They do not physically touch the child's head during a visual check.

In cases where head lice are found, the person inspecting the student will inform the student's teacher and the principal. The school will make appropriate contact with the parents/guardians/carers.

Please note that health regulation requires that where a child has head lice, that child should not return to school until appropriate treatment has commenced. The school may request the completion of an 'action taken form', which requires parents/guardians/carers to nominate if and when the treatment has started.

Parent's / guardian's / carer's full name:.....

Address:.....Post code:.....

Name of child/children attending the school:.....
.....

I hereby give my consent for my child/children to participate in the school's head lice inspection program for the duration of their schooling at this school.

Signature of parent/guardian/carer:.....

Head Lice.

How to manage and control head lice.

Using conditioner with a fine-toothed comb is the recommended method of detection. It is also an excellent mechanical method of control and treatment.

1. Apply plain white conditioner liberally to dry hair. (Any cheap brand will be fine.)
2. Cover the scalp to the ends of the hair.
3. Detangle hair with regular comb.
4. Leave conditioner in hair for 5 minutes. You may cover the hair with a shower cap whilst waiting. (Conditioner stuns lice for up to 20 minutes and makes combing easier)
5. Separate the hair into sections.
6. Comb through with the fine toothed comb
7. Wipe the conditioner from the comb onto a tissue and look for lice and eggs (nits).
8. Remove all nits to assure total lice treatment.
9. Rinse conditioner from hair and clean the fine-toothed comb with a toothbrush or dental floss.
10. Repeat process every two days until clear.
10. When clean, comb all family members weekly for early detection and prevention of new infestations.

Do not go to great lengths to wash bedding or spring-clean the house. After extensive examinations of carpets, mattresses, pillows, dress-up clothing and dolls in schools and day care centres researchers at James Cook University found no lice or eggs. These rooms all had a significant percentage of children with active cases of head lice. The conclusion is that the environment as a source of infection is zero. **CONCENTRATE ON THE HEAD!** Wash hairbrushes and combs in hot water. Lice die within 30 seconds in 60C water.

Remember also that each day is a new day for the risk of a new infestation. Notify your child's school and ask them to participate in regular head lice screening. This is the best way to protect your family and community. Being consistent and diligent about manual removal will go a long way toward controlling the problem.

Parents are encouraged to check for head lice regularly.

- ✓ **Screen safely and regularly**
- ✓ **Detect lice and nits as early as possible**
- ✓ **Remove lice and nits immediately and effectively**
- ✓ **Avoid panic and unnecessary use of chemicals**