

Aspin Park Early Years Group

Head Lice Policy

Statement of intent

We are aware that head lice can be a persistent problem in many pre-school settings. This policy outlines how we address the problem.

Aim

Our aim is to deal with head lice within the setting in a sympathetic, yet effective way.

Methods

- Children and staff with long hair are encouraged to tie their hair back
- Children will not be excluded from attending Pre-School if they have head lice, except in exceptional circumstances e.g. where a child has head lice for longer than three weeks
- Any child attending the setting with head lice must wear their hair up at all times
- Parents/carers will be encouraged to inform staff if their child has head lice
- The setting will display a notice informing parents/carers when cases of head lice have been reported
- The setting will provide parents/carers with information about how to treat and prevent infections of head lice
- Practitioners are not permitted to check children's hair for lice as it is classed as a child protection issue
- It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to check their child's hair on a regular basis

Prevention and treatment of head lice

- Head lice can be treated by the application of head lice shampoo, mousse, or ordinary hair conditioner, followed by a thorough combing with a nit comb
- Head lice can be treated and prevented by following a regular routine of washing, conditioning and nit combing after every shampoo
- Head lice can be deterred by adding a few drops of tea tree oil to the final rinse when washing hair. There is also a spray available, to use on dry hair which is also a deterrent.

Reviewed and updated

Date..... Name.....

Date..... Name.....