



28<sup>th</sup> April, 2010

Dear Parents,

Head lice are a fact – they are common and are around at all times of the year at home and at school. The problem is our reaction to them: Parents panic and rush to treat; staff dread the accusations that it's the schools fault and children feel the stigma of having them. Whilst understandable none of these reactions are helpful, what is needed is a calm and consistent approach to dealing with them and treatment is only necessary if head lice are actually found.

At school we are conscious of the fact that children do work and play in close proximity to each other and may have head to head contact. As such we have a responsibility to keep parents informed with the latest information and advice about detection and treatment, so that parents can fulfil their responsibility to regularly check and where necessary treat.

Therefore to support the whole school community we have purchased a brilliant new resource called "Advice Bank: Head Lice" which is a multimedia resource packed with the latest advice and information on the topic of Head Lice. Video clips and demonstrations will help you deal with head lice: from detection combing, to types of treatment available and how actually to treat. This will be an invaluable tool in supporting a vigilant but calm approach to this sensitive topic.

If you have access to the internet then you can go online and get advice, see the clips and download fact sheets all in the privacy of you own home. Go to [www.advicebank.co.uk/lice](http://www.advicebank.co.uk/lice). Use our school's licence key 153-682-100 and your email address and you'll be sent your own password the access the material for free as often as you like. I do have a hard copy in the day room should any parent require it. The above details can also be found on the school intranet,click on school info and then on school health.

The above applies to every one, if all parents take responsibility for checking regularly then Head Lice with in the school environment becomes much less of a problem. The boarding staff will endeavour to check the full boarders twice a term but parents have responsibility at all other times.

I do hope you find the resource helpful and please use it.

Regards,

Sharon Beaumont,  
School Nurse