



BENTLEY C. E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

HEAD LICE

Dear Parents

Some cases of head lice have been reported recently. Please could we take extra care when checking children's hair. Although lice can be seen in dry hair, the best way to check is by combing wet hair with a fine toothed 'detector' comb.

Treatment, if necessary can be done by either:

Wet-combing method

- Wash the hair in the normal way with an ordinary shampoo.
- Use lots of hair conditioner and while the hair is very wet, comb through from the roots with a wide toothed comb to remove tangles, and then use a fine toothed comb. Make sure the teeth of the comb slot in at the roots with every stroke and do this over a pale surface, such as a paper towel or the bath.
- Wet lice find it difficult to escape and hair that is slippery from conditioner makes it hard for them to keep a grip – so removal with a comb is easier.
- Clear the comb of lice between each stroke.

If you find any lice then repeat this routine every three to four days for two weeks, so that any lice emerging from eggs are removed before they can spread.

Using lotions

These are available from the chemists over the counter or on prescription for children. The chemist will advise on which lotion to use. It is important to follow the instructions on the packet.

If lice are found, it is most important to check and if necessary, treat the rest of the household. Regular wet - combing as part of routine hair washing is the best way to prevent the problem recurring. The school nurse is available for advice and can supply further information and leaflets.

Let's stop making life too easy for the louse!

Yours sincerely

Katy Pinchess

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