



STARLINGS PRESCHOOL

Headlice Policy

We are aware that head lice can be a persistent problem in many preschool settings. This policy outlines how we address the problem. Our aim is to deal with head lice within the setting in a sympathetic, yet effective way.

Procedures

- Children and staff with long hair are encouraged to tie their hair back
- Children will not be excluded from attending preschool if they have head lice, however once headlice have been spotted the parent will be called to collect and treat their child and then they are able to come back straight away.
- Parents/carers will be encouraged to inform staff if their child has head lice
- Staff will display a notice informing parents/carers when cases of head lice have been reported
- Staff will provide parents/carers with information about how to treat and prevent infections of head lice
- Staff 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 for head lice.

Prevention and treatment of head lice

- Head lice can be treated by the application of head lice shampoo, lotion or ordinary hair conditioner followed by thorough combing with a nit comb
- Head lice can be treated and prevented by following a regular routine of washing, conditioning and nit combing the hair every four days for a period of four weeks, and thereafter 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.

This policy was adopted by Starlings Preschool

On 6th September 2021

Date to be reviewed

Signed on behalf of the management committee

Name of signatory Tricia Hunt

Role of signatory Chairperson

