

Dear Parents

Re: **Head Lice**

One or two cases of head lice infestation have been reported recently in our school.

We would ask every parent to be vigilant in this matter and check your child's hair carefully for any sign of infestation. If necessary, please take appropriate action.

The most recent guidance on treatment from Stockport Healthcare NHS Trust is as follows:

Headlice are ONLY transmitted by direct, prolonged head to head contact. Transmission of lice within the classroom is relatively rare. When it does occur, it is usually from a 'best friend'.

A lot of infections are caught from close family and friends in the home and community, NOT from school.

REMEMBER – treat only those who have living, moving lice.

It is important NOT to use conditioner when using head lice lotion as this may reduce its effectiveness.

White 'nits' on the hair are old, hatched eggs and do not necessarily mean that there are live lice, although a thorough inspection of the scalp should be carried out.

Please remember that head lice prefer clean hair, so the possibility of infection is absolutely no reflection on a family's standard of hygiene. Your child has as much chance of becoming infected as any other. If your child has long hair you may consider it to be helpful if your child's hair can be tied back to help reduce the risk of infestation.

However, the chances of infection and re-infection are far greater when only some rather than all parents check their child's hair regularly. We urge you to play your part in enabling Hazel Grove High to be a head lice free zone!

Yours sincerely

Miss C Franklin

Deputy Headteacher