



Head Lice Policy

Policy statement

Children with head lice will not be excluded from my care, but I would ask that these recommendations are followed in order to try to prevent other children becoming infected:

- Parents inform me immediately if they have discovered that their child has head lice.
- Children should begin treatment before attending my setting if head lice are identified.
- Children with long hair wear their hair up to prevent the spread of infection.
- Parents check their children's hair regularly with a special head lice comb.

Procedures (how I will put the statement into practice)

I hope that the parents of children with head lice will work with me to treat and prevent the spread of the infection. I also ask that all children and parents are sensitive and understanding towards the subject of head lice, as it is not the fault of the child who is infected. It also does not imply a lack of hygiene or cleanliness.

More information about how to treat and prevent head lice can be found by visiting the NHS website. You should also be aware that to treat head lice effectively, you will need to repeat treatments at the intervals specified in the NHS guidance.

If I notice or am told that a child in my care has head lice, I will inform the parents of the other children in my care. I will not disclose which child it is who has the head lice, to keep the confidentiality of the other child and parents.

I will assist in the prevention of head lice by ensuring that children in my setting do not share things, such as role-play hairbrushes and combs, or dressing-up props such as hats and wigs, if a case has been reported in my setting.

I am happy to discuss the manual removal of head lice while your child is in my care.

Please ensure you have read and understand the Head Lice policy and procedure.

All policies and procedures are reviewed regularly and updated when necessary.

This policy and procedure has been developed in line with the EYFS welfare requirements and Ofsted guidance, and outlines the provider's responsibility to take all necessary steps to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

This policy and procedure has been written by **Miss Caitlin Smith**, the Ofsted-registered childminder responsible for the care of children at **The Flower Cottage**, Dudley, West Midlands, DY2 7TQ.