



FARNBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Farnborough Hill, Farnborough, Orpington, Kent BR6 7EQ

Telephone 01689 853295 Fax 01689 889286

Email: admin.office@farnborough.bromley.sch.uk

Website: www.farnboroughprimary.co.uk

Miss A James BA PGCE Head Teacher

Mrs C Browne B.Ed Hons Head of School

17 October 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Unfortunately a number of cases of head lice have been found on children in the school and we would appreciate it if you would check your child's head and treat accordingly.

Our school policy states that any child who has hair long enough to be tied back, SHOULD DO SO AT ALL TIMES WHILST AT SCHOOL. We do, however, request that parents ensure that their child understands that they are NOT allowed to let their hair down for any reason during the school day.

As this seems to be an on going issue throughout the school we would ask all parents to be extra vigilant in checking their child's hair regularly (at least once a week). Although we are no longer able to call upon the services of the school nurse to check all our pupils heads, we will have to seek her advice should the problem continue.

Lice live on hair near the scalp where they find food and warmth. They are very difficult to see as they tend to hide when the hair is parted and their colour blends in with that of the scalp. Head lice lay 6-8 eggs per day, gluing them to hair strands, 7 –10 days later the eggs hatch leaving behind empty egg shells commonly known as nits. Nits are pearly white in colour, so easier to detect than the lice themselves. They cannot be removed by ordinary brushing and are a good indication that lice are (or have been) present.

Head lice cannot jump or fly, nor do they live in bedding, furniture or clothes. The **only** way they can be passed on is by close head contact; a single louse can visit several heads in a day simply by walking from one head to another. It is therefore very likely that if a child has lice, anyone who has been in close contact will have them too. This could include close relatives and friends as well as the immediate family.

Regular, careful brushing and combing and the use of conditioner does help to prevent the spread of infestation. If you are experiencing particular difficulties then please do not hesitate to contact the school office who will contact the School Nurse for advice.

Yours sincerely

Miss A James
Head Teacher

Mrs C Browne
Head of School



Farnborough Primary School is a member of **Nexus Education Schools Trust**

Nexus Education Schools Trust (NEST) is a charitable company

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Company Number 08753718.

The registered office is at Worsley Bridge Primary School, Brackley Road, Beckenham, Kent BR3 1RF.

National Support School
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National College for
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“BUG BUSTING METHOD”

“What do I do if a repeated course of treatment is required?”

If, you have had several courses of pesticides over a short period of time, we now recommend the following **“BUG-BUSTING”** method. Bug Busting kits are now available on prescription for the treatment of live cases, please ask for a prescription at your surgery when treatment is needed.

1. Wash the child’s hair every 3 days for a period of 2 weeks. After washing, heavily condition the hair and extract all live lice using a fine-toothed comb, before rinsing hair thoroughly, Do not worry about extracting nits (the eggs at this stage)
2. Once the nits hatch they take 4-7 days to mature enough to reproduce so this process **MUST BE REPEATED AFTER 3 DAYS** to remove the young head lice before they have a chance to lay more eggs. Repeat again at 3 day intervals for the remaining 2 week period.

To prevent reinfestation, continue this regime at least once a week.

WHY DON'T SCHOOL NURSES CARRY OUT CHECKS ANY MORE?

The Department of Health has recommended that school nurses no longer check children’s hair for head lice. There are not enough school nurses to check every child’s hair regularly enough even if they did nothing else! This was never a very effective method of prevention because the checks have to be undertaken too frequently, and also, because it is difficult for one person to effectively examine hundreds of heads.

*The Public Health Department
Bromley Health
Global House 10 Station Approach Hayes Kent BR2 7EH*



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