

Hodge Hill Primary School



**HODGE HILL
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

HOW TO CHECK YOUR CHILD'S HAIR FOR HEAD LICE

The Wet Combing method is recommended by Birmingham Health Education Unit

WET COMBING

This is the non-insecticidal way of detecting and clearing head lice

- Wash hair with usual shampoo and rinse in the normal way
- Gently massage a liberal amount of any conditioner through the hair
- Leave the conditioner in the hair and comb out any tangles with an ordinary comb. When the comb passes smoothly through the hair switch to the fine tooth comb
- With the child's head over the basin or bath, divide the hair into sections. Comb through the hair with the fine tooth comb from the roots to the ends, section by section. Rinse the comb between strokes to wash away any lice. Use the shower spray to wash away any lice landing in the basin or bath to prevent them crawling back up long hair
- Sit the child upright leaving the hair dripping wet – as wet as possible. This makes the process easier
- Slot the fine tooth comb into the hair flat against the scalp. Comb through again section by section from the roots. Draw the comb to the end of each section
- Work gently over the whole section ensuring that all the scalp is covered. Examine the comb for lice between each stroke and remove any that are trapped in the comb. The comb can be wiped on a tissue or the lice poked out from between the teeth with a cocktail or orange stick or with a nail brush
- REPEAT EVERY THREE DAYS FOR A FORTNIGHT. This will clear all the lice once they have hatched
- IF ADULT LICE ARE FOUND AGAIN START THE FORTNIGHTLY PROCESS AGAIN. Once the lice are clear incorporate wet combing into the weekly hair wash and maintain vigilance
- Always comb your child's hair thoroughly every day with a grooming comb. This is the best way to prevent head lice.

THE SCHOOL NURSE WILL BE HAPPY TO PROVIDE FURTHER ADVICE AND SUPPORT BUT DOES NOT CHECK HEADS FOR HEAD LICE.

The telephone number for the school nursing team is: 0121 749 8440