



# KING JAMES I ACADEMY

## Head Lice Policy

Date adopted by Governors: September 2021

Date of Last Review: September 2023

Date of Next Review: September 2027

## **Head Lice Policy**

### **1. Rationale**

- 1.1 King James I Academy is aware of the national problem of head lice and how it can sometimes affect children of all ages.
- 1.2 This policy attempts to set out the duties and responsibilities of parents, the school and the Health Authorities in dealing with head lice. It sets out what school can and cannot do legally as well as providing some practical advice as to how to tackle head lice.

### **2. Parent's/Carers/Guardians Duties**

- 2.1 As the carer of a child you should:
  - Undertake regular weekly and where appropriate daily checks to ensure that your child/family is not affected. This should be done with a detector comb. All family members should be checked;
  - Inform all contacts of the family / friends who may have come in to head to head contact in the last month;
  - Seek advice from a medical practitioner (Pharmacist/ Health Visitor/ Doctor about using an approved lotion and treat using this method in the recommended way.

### **3. School's Duties**

- 3.1 School will undertake to:
  - Maintain a visual check on pupils;
  - Alert parents (class/year group) via a text/ letter if an outbreak is noted;
  - Alert individual parents by letter/ phone call if a more persistent case is noted.

### **4. Law**

- 4.1 The school by law cannot:
  - Carry out physical checks on pupils for head lice without verbal consent from the parent or child.
  - Tell parents to keep children away from school because of head lice but we can ask.
  - Exclude a child from school because of head lice.

### **5. King James I Academy Policy**

- 5.1 It is our policy that students go home for treatment at the end of the day and return the next day once the treatment has been received.
- 5.2 If this problem persists and staff feel it has not been acknowledged by a parent / carer, advice will be sought from other services (School Nurse, Health & Wellbeing Coordinator, Support Worker and / or First Contact).