



TAIPEI EUROPEAN SCHOOL 台北歐洲學校

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If you discover:

lice

TES aims to provide a safe and supportive environment for students, staff, parents and visitors.

We wish to strengthen the prevention message and the responsibilities of all parties.

Clarification of Responsibilities:

Parents/Carers

Parents/Carers have prime responsibility to check their children for head lice (or nits) on a regular basis. They also have responsibility to purchase and apply treatment.

Parents must notify the School nurse when nits or lice have been detected.

If parents are informed that their child is infested, they are responsible for immediate pick-up & treatment.

Students with head lice/nits remain at home until they have had the treatment and received written recommendation from a doctor that they are free of head lice/nits.

School Nurse

The School Nurse is available to provide individual support related to detection and treatment. The School Nurse may be used as a resource person in cases of reinfestation.

The School Nurse will check the entire Year Group in which a case has been detected, as well as siblings of the infected student.

If the head lice infestation is confirmed the School Nurse will inform the teacher, the head of section and the parents.

Principals/Teachers/Assistants

Principals are not responsible for storage or distribution of head lice treatments, nor do Principals, teachers and assistants need to be involved in checking children's hair.

If teachers/assistants, by chance, see head lice or nits in a child's hair or suspect that a child may have head lice the school nurse should be notified.

The school is responsible for the distribution of educational information.





Ten things you may wish to know about: **lice**

- 1.- Head lice are small wingless parasites that live mainly on the scalp. They start as nits about the size of a grain of salt. The eggs hatch after about 8 days.
- 2.- Head lice are NOT a sign of uncleanliness; they love clean and dirty hair!
- 3.- Lice do NOT hop, jump or fly, they do NOT carry any disease! The only way they can get from one person to another is direct touching, head to head.
- 4.- Removing the nits (eggs) and live lice with a special metal-tooth comb is time consuming but the most effective way to get rid of them. They do not wash out. (Ask the ESC school nurse if you want to buy a comb: cost NT\$100.)
- 5.- Shaving the head or cutting the hair will not affect how easily a child catches lice, though these make nit removal easier. DON'T do this unless your child wants you to. A child's self-esteem is much more important than a few missed nits.
- 6.- Hats and coats touching in school are NOT sources of lice and there is no need to separate or bag them. A louse on a hat or coat is a dying louse who will not be capable of reproducing. Healthy ones stay close to the scalp until they sense another human head. They cannot survive without blood, that is why they bite.
- 7.- Schools are NOT the most common places where head lice are spread, even though schools have blamed in the past. Sleep-overs among friends and relatives are thought to be a common way they are passed from home to home.
- 8.- The school want children with head lice treated and back in school right away.
- 9.- School nurses are supportive advocates who will help you obtain lice shampoo (every medical room of TES can provide free shampoo) and use it properly. They will assist you in checking or rechecking your child's head. They will not judge you or report you or tell others if you ask for assistance dealing with head lice. They handle lice in confidential manner.
- 10.- The Taiwan Government recommends parents to use the shampoo for the whole family, even if no lice have been detected.



Back-To-School Head Lice Checklist

Name: _____

Class: _____

1. Good lighting is important and so is comfort!
2. Parting hair in small sections, Inspect each section with care – disposable screening sticks can be used.
3. Where to check
 - Close to the scalp
 - Behind the ears
 - The back of the neck
 - The top of the head
 - Under the fringe
4. Head lice move fast and are small –range in sizes from a full stop to a sesame seed - so they can be hard to find!
 - Adult lice are 2-4 mm long, Immature lice are even smaller
 - Live lice remain close to the scalp.
5. Look for nits – tiny yellowish-white oval eggs firmly attached at an angle to the hair shaft.
 - Simply remove these by comb/hand – they can be sticky and difficult to remove.
6. If you find live head lice or nits in your child's hair, please check **ALL** your family, including yourself.

Result: **No;** all clear; or

Yes; nits / lice found – so:

1. Don't worry;
2. Take your child to a clinic;
3. Buy special shampoos from the pharmacist (one of the more popular brands is "Delice");
4. Be sure to treat all family members;
5. Students may return to school upon written clearance by a doctor. If you need further help, please contact the School Nurses.