GREEN SCHOOL POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Head Lice Policy

Application: All Green School Community
Contact Position: Head of Academics

Policy Statement

Green School is committed to maintaining high health standards to promote general health and wellbeing within the community. Head lice is common within Bali and within school settings generally. This policy aims to provide clear and practical instruction on the management of head lice and recognizes that through shared-commitment between all members of the community, infestations can be kept to a manageable minimum.

Scope

This policy applies to all members of the Green School Community and, in particular, students, parents and class-room teachers. Procedures are to be enforced across the entire student population throughout the year, with special attention during the weeks that children return to school after breaks.

Reason

A consistent and enforced set of procedures on the management of head lice is necessary to achieve lice-free class-rooms. This comprehensive approach, from detection, to treatment, to regular check-ups is designed to avoid a constant cycle of infestation within the school community.

Principles

1. As the primary responsibility for the health and hygiene of our children begins in the home, each family in the community is required to adhere to the school's head lice screening and management procedures.
2. Green School promotes the natural treatment and manual removal of lice and eggs and offers a natural lice/egg removal service on campus.

3. Green school (via the School Nurse) is responsible for regular checks of students, rotating through the class rooms and timely communication to parents. and offer a natural removal service.

4. Working together to control head lice provides necessary reassurance to those who have successfully treated an infestation or have not been infested, that everything possible is being done to prevent new outbreaks.

Procedure

In order to achieve a lice-free environment at Green School, routine screenings for early detection and treatment will be done by the school nurse and assistant.

If lice or nits (lice eggs) are detected on a student, the nurse will inform the parent via SMS/phone call and email and will offer the following options:

   a) the student return home for treatment until the lice have been removed completely; or
   b) the student undergo the school head lice removal service in the clinic at a charge of Rp50.000.

If the parent chooses not to take advantage of the school service, they will be asked to arrange for the student to be picked up as soon as possible and taken home for treatment. All head lice must be removed before the student is allowed to return to class.

Going back into the classroom while infested does not promote the eradication of head lice in the community and is not permitted. Students are to remain in the First Aid Clinic area until they are picked up.

The school nurse will conduct a follow-up check the next morning to ensure there are no remaining lice.

1. If one or two live lice are found, the nurse or assistant may remove them manually and the child may proceed to class. Parents will be informed of this via email.
2. If your child is found to have many lice during the follow-up check:
   
a) It will be requested that the student return home until the lice have been removed completely; or
b) Permission is given for the student to undergo the head lice removal service in the clinic for Rp.50,000.

If the parent chooses not to utilize this service, they will be asked to return home with the student and ensure the head lice are removed before they are allowed to return to class. As these checks will be done early, parents will have received a phone call or email the day before. It is advised that the parent or family driver remain at school until the student has been cleared to return to class or send Rp.50,000 to cover the cost of the treatment at school.

Parents should note that many salons in Bali also offer a head cleaning service to remove nits and lice should you prefer to do treatments outside of school.

Good practice for the management of head lice suggests that regular follow-up treatments are required to completely eradicate head lice. Treatment either at home or via the school service should continue every three days for two weeks subsequent to the initial treatment. This ensures that as any remaining eggs (nits) hatch, the lice are quickly removed.

Regular follow-up checks will be conducted by the school nurse to ensure complete eradication. Should lice be detected at any stage of this process the above-mentioned procedures will be enacted.

While absence from school is a loss of educational opportunity and a difficulty for parents, readmitting an infested child into the classroom is not permitted.

More information on prevention and removal of head lice can be found at the following websites: http://www.headlice.org, http://www.killnits.com or www.headlice.co.uk.