

Stepping Stones Crèche/Nursery
Proprietor: N.J.JAMES



POLICY – HEADLICE

Head lice can be a problem in nursery settings, however, how practitioners manage the problem is a delicate situation.

STAFF ARE **NOT ALLOWED** TO:

- Examine children in any way.
- Part or touch their hair to look for lice
- Comb or pick out any lice
- DO NOT discuss the child openly with other staff and units as this is a breach of confidentiality and can result in discrimination.

PROCEDURE:

- If you notice a child scratching head – tell the parent
- If you see a crawling lice **WITHOUT INSPECTION** of the head – you are allowed to tell the parent but do so in a **PRIVATE** and professional manner.
- Ask parent to treat their child and if they have long hair, recommend tying hair back until treated. They can contact the health visitor if need any advice on treating head lice.
- Display a notice and give out parent letters.
- All staff should wear hair tied back **at all times** as stated in the code of dress policy.
- There is no exclusion period for head lice.
- Children should not be discriminated against if they have lice.

All staff need to read and understand the policy and ensure ALL staff adhere to the above procedures.