



# Head lice

Head Lice the facts:

- Female adults will lay their first eggs 24hrs after mating. They will lay day after day after day.
- Adult female head lice live on average only 30 days. They can in that time lay 5-10 eggs daily.
- Nits, the egg takes 7-11 days to hatch.
- The baby louse takes 9-12 days to become an adult.
- Adult head lice are speedy they can crawl 23cm in a minute. They **can't** jump.
- 53% of people don't itch when the head lice bite. So even if your child isn't scratching it is still advisable to check at least once a week.
- If head lice are back 3-4 weeks later it can be a re-infestation. However it can be from an undetected egg.

**YOU CAN ONLY REMOVE THE EGGS BY USING A HEAD LICE COMB OR YOUR FINGERS.**

## **What to do next:**

1. Check children's hair weekly using a nit comb on wet hair.
2. Check close to the scalp, behind the ears, around the nape of the neck, top of the head and under the fringe.
3. Only treat the hair if live lice or unhatched eggs are present.
4. Inform the school, we can then let other parents know and hopefully everyone will check their children.
5. Check the whole family.

Thank you

Mrs F Hook