## Attachment 2: Consent form to conduct head lice inspections

Dear parents/guardians,

[Service Name] is aware that head lice infestation can be a sensitive issue. We are committed to maintaining children’s confidentiality and always avoid stigmatisation.

To effectively manage head lice infestation, we ask all children and their parents/guardians to support our policy and participate in our screening program.

All inspections will be conducted in a culturally appropriate and sensitive way. Information about why the inspections are held and the benefits of preventing infestations will be explained to children before the inspections.

Only the nominated supervisor/person in day-to-day charge or an external person approved by the service, such as a nurse employed by the local council, will be permitted to carry out inspections on children at the service. If there is concern about a potential infection, a child’s hair will be inspected for the presence of head lice or lice eggs.

Where live head lice are found, [Service Name] will notify the parents/guardians and will provide them with relevant information about the treatment of head lice. Other parents/guardians will be provided with a notice to inform them that head lice have been detected in the group, without disclosing any personal details. They will be encouraged to be vigilant and carry out regular inspections of their own child.

Please note that while head lice do not spread disease, they are included in the Victorian Department of Health’s [exclusion periods table for primary schools and children’s services](https://www.health.vic.gov.au/infectious-diseases/school-exclusion-table). According to this table, if a child has head lice, they must be excluded until the day after appropriate treatment has started.

 Child’s name: Group:

I hereby give my consent for [Service Name], or a person approved by [Service Name], to inspect my child’s head when an infestation of head lice is suspected in the service for the duration of xxx.

Full name of parent/guardian:

Source: ELV Infection Control and Immunisation Policy