

Head Lice/Nit Policy

Pediculosis Humanus Capitis, more generally known as head lice, is a common parasitic infestation that affects people, regardless of race, age, gender or socio-economic status.

Students with Head Lice

All checks for head lice will be done in a confidential manner, to respect the student's right to privacy and, to the extent possible, to avoid embarrassment. All excluded students will be checked prior to readmission to school.

The District will use the following guidelines:

- 1) The parent is notified by phone if possible and information related to detection and elimination of head lice can be provided at that time or sent home with the student in a sealed envelope.
- 2) The student is **not** sent home from school, unless the parent desires to pick up the student.
- 3) The parent is instructed that the student must be treated before returning to school.
- 4) It is appropriate to have the student's head checked upon return to school. If live lice are found, the student will not return to the classroom. Parent will be instructed to remove all live lice before the student returns to school.
- 5) If nits are found, the parent is notified to keep combing them out with a lice comb at least daily for the next two weeks.
- 6) Follow up head checks may be done by trained school staff to confirm lice management efforts.
- 7) If live lice are found, the process of notification to parents/guardians begins again.

Designated School Staff

The school nurse is responsible for lice identification. In the school nurses' absence, school personnel will be designated by the school nurse and building administrator. Personnel can direct any questions to the district nurses. Treatment strategies must only be offered by school health professionals.

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