

## **Pediculosis (Head Lice)**

### **Student Guidelines**

1. Students infested with head lice will be sent home for appropriate treatment. Staff will phone parents to pick up their student from school.
2. Students will not be permitted to return to school until treatment has been completed and all live lice and nits (eggs) have been removed from the hair.
3. A note will be sent home with students in the infested classroom as needed. The note will inform parents to be aware of an outbreak and to watch for lice at home.
4. A parent or guardian must accompany the student to the school office to be rechecked for live lice and nits when he/she returns to school. If a nit or louse is found, the student will not be readmitted to school. The student and parent must again return to the school office for rechecking, as often as necessary, to assure removal of all nits/live lice before readmission.
5. Staff should take precautions by thorough vacuuming of the classroom and wiping of tables with cleaner.

### **Head Lice Program**

To prevent a single case of head lice from turning into a widespread problem or epidemic there must be early detection and treatment of head lice. The following procedures will be followed to implement an ongoing monitoring program in each school throughout the district:

1. Teachers identify a volunteer parent that will assist with monitoring their classroom;
2. The parent will sign a volunteer consent form;
3. The school nurse or volunteer coordinator will provide training for volunteers;
4. A manual, kept in the school office, will keep records of classroom checklist, exclusion list, and copies of all letters and educational material to be given to parents;
5. All participating classrooms will be checked once a month for infestation. If infestation is found the student(s) will be excluded from school. Siblings of the student infested with live lice/nits will also be checked before calling home;

6. Classrooms with two or more cases of head lice should be checked weekly until there is no evidence of infestation.

**Guidelines for Classroom Head Lice Checks:**

1. Volunteers will make arrangements with the teacher for the classroom check. (It is highly preferred that it is done on Friday afternoon.)
2. It is extremely important to maintain confidentiality both inside and outside the building. Identify who the student is by asking each of them their name before checking, or meet with the teacher outside the classroom after the check. Do not discuss whether or not a student has lice in the classroom with the student or teacher. Maintain a confidential list of those students with nits or lice.
3. Upon returning to the office, remove student's registration cards. The school secretary or school nurse will contact the parent/guardian. When the parent or other responsible person is called, the student will be called out of class. If there is no one available to pick up the student, a referral will be made to the building administrator.
4. Document exclusions and date of classroom check on forms provided in the Lice Manual located in the office.
5. Teachers will be notified if any infestation is found in their classroom and a referral is made to the janitorial staff.
6. Precautions used by the classroom might include having students hang coats on the back of chairs and discouraging students from piling coats on top of each other at recess, lunch and physical education times.