

Pediculosis (Head Lice)

(Excludes students with live lice only. Allows attendance of students with nits.)

1. Periodic student head lice checks are not recommended. Screening recommendations are as follows:
 - a. Criteria for screening an individual for lice are: persistent itching or scratching, known exposure to sibling or other close contact with head lice (e.g., seat mate in classroom, locker partners, overnight sleep activities, scouts, etc.), self (student or parent) referral;
 - b. Three nonrelated cases of head lice in a classroom within 10 consecutive school days requires that all children in the classroom be screened by the following school day;
 - c. If there is infestation among three percent of the entire student population within 10 consecutive school days, there should be a screening of all students in the school within one week. Multiple cases from a single household count as one case for purposes of calculating the percent of students infested.
2. As provided by OAR 333-0190010, students found to have contracted head lice will be excluded from school at the discretion of the local school or health district. The presence of nits (lice eggs) only is not considered excludable;
3. Treatment information, district policy requirements and readmittance provisions will be provided to the parent. Parents will be advised to:
 - a. Use a lice-killing agent which their health-care provider, school nurse or local health authority recommends on all family members who demonstrate symptoms of infestation;
 - b. Follow the personal and household cleaning instructions provided by the district, health-care provider or local health authority, as appropriate;
4. Following treatment, the student will be readmitted to school;
5. The student will be subject to screening by designated personnel to determine the treatment's effectiveness. The student will be readmitted to school or denied admittance, as appropriate. The absence of nits is not required for readmittance. In the event the student is not readmitted to school because of the continued presence of live lice, parents will be notified;
6. Students readmitted will be subject to follow-up screening by designated personnel;
7. In the event additional assistance and/or information is needed regarding the treatment of the student, other family members, close contacts and the home environment (bedding, linens, grooming equipment, etc.), parents should contact their local health department;
8. Students with chronic head lice may be referred for follow-up to the school's nurse or local health department, as appropriate;
9. Parents who identify head lice on their students at home are to complete treatment prior to the readmission of their student, as required above.