

## Head Lice Procedure

- It is the position of the National Association of School Nurses and the Academy of Pediatrics that the management of pediculosis (head lice infestation) should not disrupt the educational process. No disease is associated with head lice and in-school transmission is considered to be rare. When transmission occurs, it is generally found among younger age children with increased head-to-head contact.
- A child with an active head lice infestation likely has had the infestation for one month or more by the time it is discovered. If a child is identified with live lice, the parent/guardian will be notified by the school nurse with written treatment instructions. The parent/guardian will be expected to pick up the child when the live lice are identified. The parents must treat the child using the instructions that were given by the school nurse. The child may return to school the following day only if the treatment was completed.
- Students with only nits should not be excluded from school although further monitoring is appropriate.
- Education letters related to head lice will be distributed to parents periodically at the nurse's discretion.
- The student will be rechecked for nits/lice by the school nurse on her next visit to the school.
- If there is a third occurrence of live head lice, the parent/guardian will be given written instructions for treatment. The parent/guardian must treat the child using the instructions given by the school nurse. Before the child is allowed to return to school, the parent/guardian must make arrangements with the school nurse to check their child's head before they can re-enter the classroom. There must be obvious evidence of improvement (no live lice and decreased number of nits) before the child will be allowed back in the classroom.
- There will not be routine classroom head checks.

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