



HEAD LICE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Students with head lice (pediculosis) shall not be allowed to attend school until proof of treatment is provided and the student has a satisfactory examination by trained school personnel.

Who gets lice? Anyone. Frequent, regular shampooing does not prevent a lice infestation. Smaller children tend to get them more frequently due to the more close contact with other children.

How do you get them? Lice do not fly or jump, but rather, crawl really fast and can travel from person to person.

Facts about lice: Lice do not carry disease, but bite the scalp to cause itching. Lice may not be easily seen since they move quickly and avoid light.

Facts about nits: Nits are small, oval-shaped lice eggs that are cemented to the hair shaft and resemble dandruff. Unlike dandruff, nits will not move when touched and must be pulled off the hair shaft. Nits hatch every 7-10 days.

If your child gets head lice:

1. Check every member of the family.
2. Provide the 2-step treatment process.
 - a. Treat the hair with a medicated head lice shampoo.
 - b. Remove nits by placing child under a bright light and going through small sections of hair and removing nits.
3. Wash any clothing worn by the child in hot water, wash all bedding and spray mattress with lice spray.
4. All stuffed animals should be tied up in a garbage bag and put away for 10 days, and it would be best to wash them if possible.
5. Make sure backpack and coats have been washed.
6. Spray interior of car with lice spray and vacuum.
7. Vacuum all carpets.
8. Make sure anything the child has had contact with is treated, either by spraying and vacuuming or washing in hot water.
9. If anyone else in the household has head lice who is an infant or is pregnant, check with a physician before treating.
10. If nits and lice are not completely killed, your child will have head lice again.
11. After your child has been treated and nits have been picked out, an adult will need to bring your child to school so the school nurse or trained personnel can check and clear your child to return to class.
12. Your child may not ride the school bus until they have been cleared of head lice.

When should I retreat my child? A second treatment should be done 7 days after the first treatment. Check your child daily for head lice to help prevent infestation again.