

USD 114 Head Lice Policy

The USD 114 head lice policy reflects the mandate by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. The mandate, KAR 28-1-6 states: Pediculosis (Head Lice): Each student infested with head lice shall be excluded from school, childcare facility, or family daycare home until treatment with an anti-parasite drug has been initiated.

USD 114 procedures:

- Teachers notify the school nurse if they see a child scratching their head, or if they see an insect or nit.
- The school nurse checks the student, if live lice or nits are found, the student is sent home for treatment. The child is to remain in the nurse's care until the child is picked up. In the event the parent or guardians fails to pick the child up, the child will not be sent home on the school bus. If the school is unable to contact the parent, the school may access community resources such as local law enforcement, DCF, or other community agencies to make contact with the parent or guardian.
- Treatment is not complete until all live lice and nits are removed, shampoo used, and it is determined by the school nurse that the student is lice and nit free.
- Schools will recognize a maximum of two days of excused absences for the treatment of head lice and nits, including the day the student is sent home. Any additional days beyond the two-day allowance will be counted as unexcused absences. Refer to the Truancy policy for attendance consequences of accumulated unexcused absences.

- The student may return to school after being checked by the school nurse and it is verified that the student has no live lice or nits. The school nurse will re-check the student in approximately 7-10 days to insure that no re-infestation has occurred.
- Once a case of lice infestation has been found the teacher and school officials shall begin preventative measures to insure that the infestation will not be spread. Such measures will include the separation of coats and the periodic spraying/fogging treatment of the classroom.
- It is critical that combing and nit removal be done or the lice cycle continues. Parents must be vigilant in regularly checking their children's hair.
- Other procedures may be implemented by the nurses and administration on a case-by-case basis dependent upon the circumstances to insure the health and safety of all USD 114 students and employees.
- School nurses will provide parents with home treatment information upon request.