

District: Alcorn School District

Section: J - Students

Policy Code: JGCC - Communicable Diseases Administrative Procedures

HEAD LICE (Pediculus)

This is an infestation of the scalp with "bugs" called lice. They firmly attach egg sacs, called nits to the hair. Primary symptoms are intense itching of the scalp. An infested child's parent/guardian should be notified that the child has been found to have head lice and must receive the proper treatment before returning to school. This should be an approved medical treatment and not a home remedy. Evidence of treatment such as a note from the pharmacist, a receipt for purchase of lice shampoo or the empty container with the label intact must be presented to return to school. Care will be taken not to embarrass the child. It is not necessary to remove the infested child before the end of the school day. For any student who has had head lice on three (3) consecutive occasions during one (1) school year, the principal shall notify the county health department of the recurring problem of head lice with that student. The student shall not be allowed to attend school until proof of treatment is obtained. 41-79-21

IMPETIGO

This is a contagious disease characterized by spreading pustular lesions (sores with pus) and should receive medical treatment. The child may return to class 24 hours after treatment has started. Lesions that are still oozing and are on exposed skin surfaces should be covered.

PINK EYE (Conjunctivitis)

This is an infectious disease characterized by redness of the eye, excessive tearing, itching, pain and discharge. The parent should be notified to pick up the child. Children may return to school with a note from the physician or when symptoms have subsided.

RINGWORM (Skin)

When these lesions (red circular places with severe itching) are found, it is reasonable to send a note home with the child indicating the need for treatment. The child may return to school as soon as treatment with an appropriate anti-fungal ointment is started. A receipt for purchase should be presented to indicate treatment has begun.

RINGWORM (Scalp)

Ringworm of the scalp is characterized by inflammation, redness, hair loss and itching and does not respond to over-the-counter medications. Therefore the student should see a physician and may return to school with physician's approval.

STREPTOCOCCAL PHARYNGITIS (Strep throat) Strep throat is characterized by severe sore throat, fever and usually swollen lymph nodes in the neck. The child should see a physician to obtain prescription medication. The student may return 24 hours after treatment has begun. Students with a common cold, who are so ill that their classroom performance is affected, should remain home until they improve.

ALLERGIC REACTIONS

If a child is known to have a severe allergy to stinging insects, food, etc. parents should notify school personnel and provide the school with necessary instructions and medications to handle such an emergency if it occurs. In the case of a severe allergic reaction the student will be transported by emergency vehicle to the nearest emergency room.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

All staff shall use the following routine and standard procedure to clean up after a student has an accident or injury at school.

1. Blood or body fluids emanating from ANY student including ones known to have a chronic infectious disease, shall be treated cautiously.
2. Rubber gloves shall be worn when cleaning up blood spills. These spills shall be disinfected with a solution of bleach and water (1-part bleach to 7 parts water) and persons coming in contact with them shall wash their hands immediately.
3. Blood soaked items shall be placed in leak-proof bags for washing or further disposition.
4. The same procedures shall be used for dealing with the vomit and bodily waste of ANY student.
5. Handwashing immediately after contact with a student is routinely recommended if physical contact has been made with the student's blood or bodily fluids, including saliva.

ASD shall provide gloves and other appropriate materials for use by the staff for compliance with this procedure.

CORONAVIRUS

Note: The ASD follows guidance from the Mississippi Department of Health and the County Health Department.

Students/staff will be sent home and should stay home if they have tested positive for or are showing COVID-19 symptoms. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus.

Known symptoms include, but are not limited to:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestions or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea