



Book	Policy Manual
Section	8000 Operations
Title	PEDICULOSIS (HEAD LICE)
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8451 - **PEDICULOSIS (HEAD LICE)**

Head lice is a universal problem, present in the community at all times, and is particularly prevalent among elementary school-age children. Head lice are a nuisance, but do not spread disease. Control of lice infestation is best handled by adequate treatment of the infested person and their immediate household and other close personal contacts. Contracting head lice is not an indicator of uncleanliness or socioeconomic status. Head lice are spread most commonly by direct head-to-head (hair-to-hair) contact. However, much less frequently they are spread by sharing clothing or belongings onto which lice have crawled or nits attached to shed hairs may have fallen.

Communication from the school to parents directly and through parent and classroom education to the students help increase the awareness for both parents and child. Parents need to check their child's head on a regular basis for signs of head lice and treat adequately and appropriately as necessary. Control depends on prompt case finding and effective treatment.

The school nurse or their designee shall be the only ones authorized to conduct examinations of students for head lice.

If a student in the Corporation is found to have head lice and/or nits, the school nurse or designee shall notify the parent and ask the parent to pick the student up and administer an FDA-approved lice treatment (e.g., pediculicide/ovicide, treatment by a qualified healthcare provider, or treatment at a clinic specializing in lice and nit removal.

After treatment and upon returning to school, the student will be examined by the school nurse or designee, which may include the principal. The Corporation practices a policy of "no head lice and/or nits " as the criterion for the return to school.

The Superintendent shall prepare administrative guidelines to provide for the implementation of this policy.

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