

Policy Regarding Pediculosis

Effective 2014 – 2015

It is with the approval of the Superintendent of Schools, and the building Principals, along with the guidance of the School Physician, that the following policy be adopted.

Students with live head lice, or nits (eggs) found on the hair shaft closer than 1 cm from the scalp (viable), by the School Nurse, will be referred for treatment at the end of the school day. The Parent/Guardian will be instructed in removal of all live lice and all viable nits. Immediate removal of the student from school is unnecessary. If the student has lice, the individual has probably been infested for weeks, and prompt removal of the student could lead to embarrassment as well as time taken away from learning.

Following treatment, the student will be rechecked before returning to the classroom. If no live lice, or nits on the hair shaft closer than 1 cm from the scalp are found by the School Nurse, the student is cleared for reentry.

If any nits are found during the recheck, the student will be assessed again in 1 week.

Students with nits further than 1 cm from the scalp (non-viable) will not be referred for treatment and may remain at school.

At the School Nurse's discretion, siblings and others felt to be in close contact with a student diagnosed with pediculosis, will be checked. Inspection of entire classrooms is not necessary unless advised by the Nurse.

The School Nurse may exclude a student with repeated infestations of live lice or viable nits, or a student with current active infestation for which there is apparent lack of adequate follow through by the Parent/Guardian.