



Book	Policy Manual
Section	Volume 16, No. 1, February 2024
Title	New Policy - Vol. 16, No. 1 - February 2024 - PEDICULOSIS
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8451 - PEDICULOSIS (HEAD LICE)

Head lice are present in the community at all times and can be particularly prevalent among preschool and elementary school-age children. 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 cleanliness or socioeconomic status.

Communication from the school to parents directly and through parent and classroom education to the students will help increase the awareness for both parents and the child. It is the responsibility of the parent(s) 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.

Definitions

Pediculosis - an infestation of lice.

Infestation - the presence of live lice, typically on the head.

Lice - the plural form of louse.

Nit - the egg of a louse.

If a child in the District is found to have head lice or untreated nits, the school staff will notify the parent/guardian and advise them to 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 but the child will remain in the classroom until the end of the day.

The Principal or designee will determine the type of activities the student will be engaged in for the rest of the day to minimize physical contact with other students. If head-to-head contact is possible, the student will be excused from those activities. Further, if appropriate, the student's desk will be positioned such that the infested student and his/her hair cannot come into contact with other students or their desks.

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Legal [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. \(2019\). Head lice general information.](#)

