

EXCLUSION FOR HEAD LICE

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Head lice are a common condition in the school age child. It is highly contagious and easily spread from direct or indirect contact with the infested person and/or infested personal items.

The school nurse or designee will screen students for head lice. If nits (egg cases) or lice are present, the student will be excluded from school until the student is nit and lice free.

CASE FINDING

1. At the beginning of each academic year, all students (K-5) may be examined for head lice. Any new student may be examined for entry to school.
2. When a case is found, all the children in the classroom may be examined. Siblings of those found with head lice may also be checked. Also, a notification of head lice letter is to be sent home to all parents of children in the classroom the same day the case of head lice is discovered.
3. If five (5) or more children appear to be infested, an examination of the entire school may be done.

ADMINISTRATIVE HANDLING

1. Each infestation will be recorded. The following information shall be entered: name, grade, teacher, date the infestation was discovered, type of treatment, date student returned to school after treatment.
2. Each new infestation shall be recorded, even if the child has previously been treated and declared free of head lice and nits.
3. Parent/guardian of infested students will be requested orally and in writing to come to school and take the child home. Parents shall be shown some of the nits and/or live lice in order to:
 - a. Demonstrate that the child is infested; and
 - b. Enable parent/guardian to see what a nit or louse looks like and thus gain the information needed to examine other family members for infestation.
4. The child must be examined for lice or nits before readmission. If a child returns to school the same day as diagnosis and treatment, the child will have to be in a different set of clothing. If after any infestation, the child is not treated as set forth, he or she may be refused readmission to school.
5. Children experiencing repeated problems with head lice may be excluded from school until the child is nit free.

LEGAL REFERENCE:

Idaho Code Sections
33-512.7

IDAPA 16.02.10.025.032 c.iv

ADOPTED: 5-18-98

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