

Prevention/Control of Head Lice in Schools

School personnel shall actively pursue the prevention and control of head lice in the District's schools by developing a consistent education, screening and follow-up program for all students.

Principals and school personnel trained to identify live lice or nits shall adhere to the following guidelines:

- 1) When students are observed/reported to have live head lice or nits any time during the school year:
 - a. Playmates closely associated with the student and possibly siblings of the student that attend the same school may be checked for nits or live lice, which are defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as crawling lice. In general, school-wide checks are not necessary.
 - b. Parents of each student identified as having live lice or nits will be contacted by a school/District representative advising them of the finding.
- 2) Principals or school/District personnel shall offer parents of students identified as having live lice and/or nits:
 - a. Visual evidence of live lice and/or nits in the student's hair.
 - b. Verbal and/or written information/direction for hair treatment and household procedures.
- 3) In most cases, students should not be excluded from school. However, in all instances when personnel identify live lice and/or nits, they shall confirm with the student and/or parent/guardian that the following have occurred:
 - a. The parent/guardian has combed the student's hair with an actual lice/nit comb or applied special lice killing shampoo on the same or next day.
 - b. When the student returned to school after treatment, designated school personnel rechecked the student before s/he returned to the classroom. If live lice or nits remained, steps 2 and 3 above were re-established.
- 4) School personnel shall follow up with students found with a second and subsequent cases of live head lice to assure that:
 - a. Prescribed medical treatment for live lice or nits has been applied to the student's hair no later than the next day.
 - b. Any second application required is applied within the recommended time frame.
- 5) The Superintendent/designee shall:
 - a. Establish education/information programs on head lice control methods for school personnel, community members, students and parents.
 - b. Provide each school with written materials on head lice control and prevention.

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