



## HEAD LICE PROCEDURES

Head lice are a common community problem, and while a nuisance, they do not pose a public health risk. Head lice are not dangerous and do not transmit disease. Consistent with our Medical Director, current medical practices of the AAP (American Association of Pediatrics) and CDC (Center for Disease Control), no healthy child will be excluded from school due to an active case of head lice or the presence of nits (louse eggs).

A student who is suspected of having an infestation of head lice, whether in the form of nits or live lice, will be discreetly sent to the nurse for an examination. If a live louse is found, the nurse will contact the parent/guardian of the student, notify them of the lice, and suggest that the student be picked up to have a treatment completed. The student will be able to return after the treatment is completed. Instructional material on lice treatment and household lice removal will be given to the parent with each episode. If assistance with treatments is needed, please discuss options with our school nurse.

Based on the recommendations of the AAP, the CDC, and our Medical Director, Dr. Brammer, widespread notification of a case of head lice in the classroom is not recommended. In the event that an unusual clustering of active head lice cases are discovered in a classroom, notification will be sent home to all families in that classroom.

Head lice screenings will be done on a referral basis by a teacher, the student, or a parent. Entire classroom screenings are not supported by the AAP and CDC; an exception to this would again be if there was an unusual clustering of active head lice cases in a classroom.

Education will be provided to staff and students on how to help minimize the spread of lice and help dispel any of the myths associated with lice infestation. To the extent practicable, school staff will protect student privacy when infestations are detected.