

LICE CONTROL PLAN

The purpose of this plan is to prevent outbreaks of lice and to help break the cycle of lice re-infestation that can occur. The most important element of this plan is to uphold the policy in place for lice control.

The school's registered nurse (RN) will determine, along with the principal, the lice screening schedule for each school individually based on the prevalence of students with lice/nits and the likelihood of a potential lice infestation.

The recommended minimum screening schedule is as follows:

- Primary and Elementary Schools: every Friday morning.
- Secondary Schools: the first day of classes, and the first day students return from extended breaks, such as fall holidays, winter holidays, and spring break.

TEACHERS: SCREENING EACH STUDENT FOR LICE IN THE CLASSROOM EVERY FRIDAY MORNING IS RECOMMENDED. If lice and/or nits (lice eggs) are found, refer the student to the school nurse, confidentially, taking care not to embarrass the student.

Clean your classroom daily, vacuuming and washing anything that may have come in contact with any student's hair or clothing. *Teach* children not to share hats, combs, brushes, coats and the like and to keep their nails trimmed short. Good handwashing should be practiced often during the school day.

SCHOOL NURSE: Once lice/nits are confirmed, the school nurse will send the student home with a letter (LCP-1) and a Parent Information Packet about lice. The school nurse will determine if any nits found are viable and will instruct parents re: treatment options.

Note: If the nit or nits can be removed or slid off the hair strand with ease then it is considered not viable. Any nit that holds on to the hair and not easily removed is to be considered viable.

Note: If parents have treated the child with lice-killing shampoos two times as recommended, (first treatment and then 7-10 days later the shampoo may be repeated), and the child still has viable nits you should refer that student to his/her physician.

The school nurse will perform the recheck on any student(s) sent home for treatment prior to the student re-entering the classroom. The **school nurse** or **principal** has the authority to readmit a student to the classroom when he/she considers the student free of viable nits.

The school nurse is available to instruct teachers who do not know how to perform head checks for lice. Your school's registered nurse (RN) is the resource person to be called when the school's effort to control the lice problem fails, or when a particular student is sent home repeatedly for lice infestation.

PRINCIPAL: The **principal** should decide when a letter, (LCP-2) along with the Parent Information Packet, should go out to *all parents* in the school or individual classroom regarding lice in the school.

BUS DRIVERS: Buses should be swept and cleaned each day to prevent the spread of lice by student contact or by fallen hair strands.