



Head Lice & Treatment Procedure

Head lice can be a common presence in the community and can be particularly prevalent among pre-school and elementary school-age children. Lice is a nuisance, but does not spread disease. Control of lice infestation is best handled by adequate treatment of the infested person and his/her immediate household and other close personal contacts. Contracting head lice is not an indicator of cleanliness or socioeconomic status. (Wis. Stat. 143.04)

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. The District practices a policy of "no live lice" as a criteria for return to school as follows:

1. Students with suspected head lice will be examined by Health Aides or trained school personnel in the health office of the school.
2. Students with head lice, confirmed by Health Aides or trained school personnel, will have their parent(s) notified with the recommendation that the student be picked up immediately and administer an FDA-approved lice treatment (e.g. pediculicide/ovicide). If a student with live lice or untreated nits is not able to be picked up immediately, they may remain in the classroom for the remainder of the school day. Prior to returning to class the student will be treated with a Robi comb by a Health Aide or trained school personnel if they are not able to be picked up.
3. The student will need to be treated for lice before returning the next school day. A lice clean-up checklist, education material and shampoo will be provided to the parent.
4. Siblings and close contacts of the afflicted student shall also be screened for head lice. When head lice are found the District Nurse will determine if a notice will be sent home for the entire classroom, so that all parents can check their child(ren) at home.
5. A child who has been treated for head lice will be asked to be accompanied by a parent/guardian when he/she returns to school. The student will be examined prior to returning to class to verify that there are no live lice present at that time.
6. Seven, ten, and fourteen days after initial treatment, the student will be re-examined for head lice by school personnel.
7. Repeat cases will not be admitted to school until the hair is louse free (treated nits are okay), verified by examination by Health Aides or trained school personnel.

This procedure has been developed in an attempt to control this public nuisance. Your cooperation is essential and appreciated.

HEAD LICE FORM AND PROCEDURES

Student: _____ Grade: _____ School: _____

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Your child was sent home because live head lice and/or nits were found in their hair. District procedure regarding student with head lice is as follows:

1. Students found with live head lice will have their parent(s) notified and will not be allowed to return to school until after being treated with a head lice control shampoo and receiving this educational checklist. **The student will be checked upon return to school and must be free of live lice to be allowed back to the classroom.**
2. The student will be rechecked again at 7, 10, and 14 days for lice and/or nits (reinfestation)
3. If a parent/guardian is unable to purchase the initial head lice shampoo one will be provided to the parent/guardian by the school district.

Again, this procedure has been developed in an attempt to control this public nuisance. Parent/guardian cooperation is essential and is appreciated. Parents/Guardians of a student with chronic head lice infestations, as determined by the District Nurse, may be asked to see their primary care provider. Refusal to do so may result in notification of the Monroe County Health Department and/or Monroe County Human Services for possible child neglect.

This checklist should be completed and returned to school with the student (copy will also be kept in Health Office):

- _____ Shampooed with head lice shampoo (Date: _____ Product Name: _____)
- _____ Combed dead nits and lice from hair with special nit comb
- _____ Vacuumed all floors, furniture, car, and rugs thoroughly
- _____ Washed all recently used bedding, clothing, towels, hats, caps, and scarves in hot water (150 degrees) and dried in hot dryer for at least 20 minutes
- _____ Combs, brushes, and all hair accessories should be soaked in water (150 degrees) for 10 minutes
- _____ Personal items, stuffed animals, and clothing that cannot be washed at higher temperatures should be kept in air-tight bags for 14 days.
- _____ Student was shampooed again with head lice shampoo as directed by the manufacturer's instructions 7-10 days after initial treatment.
- _____ Student was instructed not to share clothing, combs, hats, scarves with other children
- _____ All other family members were checked and treated for head lice

Parent/Guardian Signature

_____ Date sent home	/	_____ Date returned	_____ 7-day follow up-date	_____ 10-day follow up-date	_____ 14-day follow up-date
nits or lice		nits or lice	nits or lice	nits or lice	nits or lice

