

Pediculosis is the infestation of the hair, skin or pubic area with adult lice, larvae or nits (eggs).

The psychological, social and economic impact of head lice infestations can create a problem in the community. Every attempt will be made to educate students and parents on the prevention and eradication of head lice before and after an infestation is detected.

To avoid embarrassment and to contain the infestation, whole classrooms will be checked for head lice upon the report of possible infestation by a classroom teacher. The principal, his/her designee, school nurse or another qualified professional will examine the student in question and their classmates. Siblings of students found with lice and their classmates will also be checked if there is the suspicion that infestation may exist. Due to the possible and very probable epidemic infestation of head lice in the school environment, anyone exhibiting head lice will be isolated immediately.

Any student found to have head lice will be removed from the classroom with their belongings.

The parent/guardian and/or listed emergency contact will be contacted so they can pick up the student and begin treatment immediately. A student suspected of infestation will not ride the bus. The student will be held in the front office or the nurse's office until the parent/guardian arrives in order to avoid further infestation.

Parents/guardians should be provided with printed educational information on head lice treatment. The educational material should include details explaining the problem, list the procedures for treatment and requirements for re-entering school.

The student may return to school after being successfully treated so that no live lice or eggs are detected by the school nurse or a designated school official. The student's parent/guardian must accompany the student upon returning to school and remain present during the re-check. With the presence of nits or lice at the time of re-check, the student will continue to be excluded from school.

In the interest of the health and welfare of students enrolled in the District, no student will be permitted to attend classes if they are infested with head lice or the eggs of head lice.

All other students in the classroom where lice or nits have been reported will be checked and given a letter to take home explaining the situation and the need for parents to inspect their children carefully. Any child who is suspected of having lice will be treated with the utmost discretion.

Policy Cross Reference:

Legal Reference:

Idaho Code §33-512

Governance of Schools

Policy History:

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