

## PROCEDURE

### Lice (Pediculosis)

Rationale: Infestation with head lice is found worldwide and common among young children. Education, assessment, and monitoring practices for head lice may help to ensure effective treatment and assist in preventing spread to others.

#### Guidelines:

1. Suspected case of head lice reported to the nurse.
  - Nurse assesses student.
  - If no evidence of head lice is identified, nurse monitors situation and educates parent as indicated.
  - If evidence of head lice noted, nurse proceeds with #2.
2. Case of head lice confirmed by nurse
  - Students in affected student's classroom and close contacts may be assessed for evidence of head lice (elementary level) as indicated. Close contacts assessed at the secondary level at the discretion of the nurse.
  - Sibling(s) and other students in household who attend the SVSD are assessed as indicated.
  - Parent notified and provided with educational information regarding care and treatment (See [http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/gen\\_info/faqs.html](http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/gen_info/faqs.html))
  - Utilizes measures to maintain confidentiality of infested student
  - Student may return to the classroom until dismissal is possible. The student should avoid head to head contact with other students during this period of time. A student diagnosed with live head lice does not need to be sent home early from school; they can go home at the end of the day, be treated, and return to class after appropriate treatment has begun.
  - Principal notified at the discretion of nurse.
  - After treatment, the student may return to school. At this time, student should be free of live lice. Nits should be reduced in number. Any nit remaining within ¼ of scalp should be manually removed.
  - Nurse should monitor the student for reduction of nits and no live lice.
3. Multiple cases of head lice are identified within a classroom or building.
  - Students in all classrooms, close contacts, and siblings of affected students may be assessed at the discretion of the nurse.
  - Students may return to the classroom until dismissal is possible. The student should avoid head to head contact with other students during this period of time. A student diagnosed with live head lice does not need to be sent home early from school; they can go home at the end of the day, be treated, and return to class after appropriate treatment has begun.
  - Parent notified and provided with educational information regarding care and treatment (See [http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/gen\\_info/faqs.html](http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/gen_info/faqs.html))
  - Principal notified at the discretion of nurse. School wide educational information shared with parents at the discretion of nurse.
  - •After treatment, the students may return to school. At this time, student should be free of live lice. Nits should be reduced in number. Any nit remaining within ¼ of scalp should be manually removed.
  - Nurse should monitor all affected students ongoing for reduction of nits and no live lice.