



CPCSC Head Lice Guidelines

Head lice is a universal problem and is particularly prevalent among elementary school-age children. Control of lice infestation is best handled by adequate treatment of the infested person and his/her immediate household and other close personal contacts. Head lice are spread most commonly by direct head-to-head (hair-to-hair) contact. However, much less frequently they are spread by sharing clothing or belongings onto which lice have crawled or nits attached. Parents need to continually observe their child for this potential problem and treat adequately and appropriately as necessary.

Suspected cases of head lice at school will be sent to the nurse for examination. If the student has live lice or nits closer than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch from the scalp, a parent/guardian will be contacted to pick up the student. The student must receive a treatment at home, including manual removal of nits.

The nurse will assist the parent/guardian with strategies for treatment and prevention, allowing the student to return to school as quickly as possible. Upon returning to school, a parent/guardian must accompany their student to be rechecked by the nurse before returning to the classroom.