

Students

HEAD LICE

The Governing Board believes that the District's head lice management program should emphasize the correct diagnosis and treatment of head lice in order to minimize disruption of the education process and to reduce the number of student absences resulting from infestation. In consultation with the school nurse, the Superintendent or designee may establish a routine screening program to help prevent the spread of head lice.

School employees shall report all suspected cases of head lice to the school nurse or designee as soon as possible. The nurse or designee shall examine the student and other students who are siblings of the affected student or members of the same household.

If a student is found with active, adult head lice, he/she shall be excluded from attendance. The parent/guardian of an excluded student shall receive information about recommended treatment procedures and sources of further information. The student shall be allowed to return to school the next day after treatment and shall be checked by the nurse or designee before returning to class. Once he/she is determined to be free of lice, the student shall be rechecked weekly for up to two weeks.

The Superintendent or designee shall send home the notification required by law for excluded students. (Education Code 48213)

The principal and school nurse shall work with the parents/guardians of any student who has been deemed to be a chronic head lice case in order to help minimize the student's absences from school.

When one student or more in any class have been identified as having a head lice infestation, all students in the class shall be examined. In consultation with the school nurse, the principal will also send information about head lice home to all parents/guardians of the students in that class.

Staff shall maintain the privacy of students identified as having head lice and excluded from attendance.

Legal Reference: See next page

HEAD LICE

Legal Reference: Education Code  
48210-48216 Persons excluded  
49451 Physical examinations: parent's refusal to consent  
Management Resources:  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
Lice, Nits, and School Policy, Official Journal of the  
American Academy of Pediatrics, May 2001  
California Department of Health Services  
Guidelines for Parents on Control of Head Lice, 2006  
California School Nurses Organization  
Position Statement: Pediculosis Management, 2005  
WEB SITES  
California Department of Health Services, Infectious  
Diseases Branch:  
<http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/disb/disbindex.htm>  
California School Nurses Organization: <http://www.scno.org>  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Parasitic  
Disease Information, Head Lice:  
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/lice>  
  
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