

HEAD LICE

Evidence based practice for the treatment of head lice outlines that students are not to be excluded from school unless it has been determined that *live* head lice have been detected.

When infestation of an individual child is suspected by either the parent or classroom teacher, that child will be examined by the nurse in the nurse's office. If a child is to be excluded from school for the infestation of *live* head lice, the parent, or their representative, will transport the child home. Others in the classroom will be checked on an individual basis if infestation is suspected.

When two or more cases of *live* head lice are diagnosed, the nurse will send letters to all parents in the classroom to inform them about the situation and to recommend the assessment of their child. The letter will list the steps to be followed to help eradicate the pests.

If a student is found to have *live* head lice, the following policy will be in effect:

- a. Parents or an emergency representative will be contacted in each case. The parent or representative will be responsible for providing transportation home. Proper authorities may be notified if the child is not picked up at the school within one hour of the notification of infestation.
- b. Exclusion will be as follows:
 - The student will be excluded from school until the nurse examines the child after home treatment has been completed and finds him/her to be free of *live head lice*.
 - The student will be excluded from the school bus until the nurse has seen the child and determined to be free of *live* head lice. The parent will provide transportation for the child to the school to be examined by the school nurse.
 - A letter will be supplied by the school to the parent with recommendations in order to treat head lice in the home.
 - Names of children that have been excluded from school three times due to *live* head lice infestations and have not cooperated with the school to remedy the situation will be referred to the Centre County Children and Youth Services under the Neglect Provision of the Children Protective Service Law – Act 124.