

## CISD Pediculosis (Lice) Management Procedure

### Screening Guidelines:

- School nurse will screen students for Pediculosis on an individual student basis. Privacy shall be maintained to avoid embarrassment.
- Entire classroom screenings, campus-wide assessments and “routine” screenings are generally not productive and result in a potential loss of privacy, and decreased instructional time. Therefore, this screening process will not be routinely used. A group screening may be performed on occasion when there is a concern of an infestation in either a classroom or a specific grade. In this case, Infestation is defined as 4 or more students in the same classroom with active Pediculosis, Live Bugs. Parent permission is not needed to examine a student for possible Pediculosis. Pediculosis, Head Lice, is a common nuisance, and every effort should be made to avoid the spread of the condition.
- When the school nurse becomes aware of a student with Pediculosis, Live Bugs, an informational classroom letter will be sent out to parents/guardians of students in that classroom on elementary campuses within 5 days of the notification.
- Referral for screening is based on these common symptoms:
  - Frequent scratching on the head and/or back of neck
  - Student stating that their head is itching
  - Pink/red marks on the scalp and/or back of neck
  - Unexplainable sores and/or scabs on the scalp/back of neck
  - Yellowish, white, or brown nits (egg sacks) attached to strands of hair that cannot be washed out or removed with the fingers
  - White to gray crawling forms in the hair about the size of sesame seeds
- The school nurse shall examine siblings attending the same campus of a student with Pediculosis. The nurse will also be responsible for notifying the school nurses of other campuses where siblings are in attendance.

### **Parent/Guardian Notification:**

*Exclusion Protocol: Our protocol is designed to protect the integrity of the school day, and to minimize embarrassment and unnecessary isolation of students with Pediculosis.*

- A parent or guardian of a student with active Pediculosis, Live Bugs, shall be notified and the student **will be excluded from school** based on one of the following scenarios:
  - Students who have evidence of LIVE BUGS, active Pediculosis, will be excluded from school at time of discovery so that treatment begins as quickly as possible. These students must comply with re-admission procedure for returning to school.
  - Students with apparent viable nits or eggs will be sent home for treatment at the end of the school day and must follow the same re-admission criteria as those students with live bugs.

*Re-admission Criteria: Students who have been excluded from school for active Pediculosis shall be re-admitted to school ONLY AFTER examination by the school nurse or nurse assistant prior to re-admission to the classroom. Parents need to accompany their child to the clinic prior to entering the classroom and remain present during the examination. Clinic staff will assess for efficacy of treatment and will re-admit the student to the classroom when no signs of active Pediculosis are present.*

### **Excessive Absences:**

**Although time-sensitive, the recommended treatments for Pediculosis are relatively easy to perform and the initial treatment can usually be completed within a day. Excessive absences due to Pediculosis will be subject to the Texas Compulsory Attendance Laws.**