



## MANAGEMENT OF PEDICULOSIS

### **Purpose:**

To assist principals in enforcing the communicable disease regulations, the following guidelines are provided to insure uniformity in the management and control of pediculosis.

1. When a case of pediculosis capitis (head lice) is suspected in your school, the student should be checked to determine if the suspicion is valid. Students may be checked by the school nurse or other designated school personnel.
2. If evidence of pediculosis (nits or lice) is found, brothers and sisters should also be checked. Parents of those students found with evidence are notified and asked to pick up their children and treat them. If siblings attend a different school, inform parent that the school nurse at the particular school will be notified to check their child. A letter stating that evidence of pediculosis was found should be given to the parent.
3. Parents may obtain non-prescription medication from their pharmacist or obtain a prescription from their family physician.
4. When evidence of head lice is found, all students in those classrooms shall be screened. If no additional cases are found, screening may be discontinued. However, if further cases are identified, their contacts must also be screened.
5. A student who is returning to school after treatment must check in through the school office and be screened by the nurse or designated personnel. The student must have been treated with an appropriate lice treatment and be free of all nits and lice before being readmitted to school. *A doctor's or health department's excuse does not preempt these admission requirements.*
6. Students who return to school without appropriated treatment will be sent home with a second letter of explanation. No more than 3 consecutive days absence should be considered excused when absence is due to pediculosis. After 3 consecutive days, absences should be considered unexcused.
7. School nurses and each principal have a plan implemented to screen, prevent, and control pediculosis.
8. All teachers should be aware of these guidelines.

**Questions concerning the above listed should be addressed to the school nurse**