

Lice Treatment Form

Name: _____ Date: _____

Today your child was found to have head lice. Please follow the recommendations below regarding treatment, follow-up, and re-admission to school.

Head lice are small, tan colored insects (less than 1/8" long) that live on blood they draw from the scalp. The eggs (nits) are gray/white and about the size of the head of a pin. The lice and eggs are found on the hair. Lice can live only 1-2 days away from the scalp. Head lice crawl; they do not jump or fly. One sign of lice is an itching head.

Head lice are spread from one person to another by direct contact with hair or head-gear of infected people; or by the sharing of items such as combs, hats, and other clothing. Lice are spread only by crawling lice (not nits).

TREATMENT:

1. Apply head lice treatment (over the counter or prescription) specifically made for killing head lice. Parents are encouraged to call their child's doctor for a treatment recommendation. Treatments come in a variety of forms such as shampoo, cream rinse, and gel. Follow the directions on the label exactly as recommended by the manufacturer.
2. After the hair has been treated, all nits should be combed or hand picked from the hair.
3. While hair is still damp, comb hair through to remove tangles. Then remove nits from the hair shaft. You will need a bright light (and magnification, if available) to see the nits; a fine-toothed comb, preferably made of metal, to strip the nits; a good book or video may assist in keeping the child occupied. Comb the hair from underneath, small sections at one time. To prevent re-infestation, it is essential to inspect the hair daily for ten days. Continually strip any nits you may have missed by running your fingernails down the hair shaft. Although complete removal of nits is time consuming, it is necessary.
4. Inspect all family members and treat if live lice are found. Children under 2 years of age and pregnant mothers should not be treated without consulting with a doctor.
5. Lice infestations on people can be quickly and easily treated. However, unless the sources of re-infestation are also eliminated, you can become re-infested.

Lice can survive in the environment for 24 – 48 hours. The following environmental treatments are recommended:

- Excessive housecleaning is not necessary; however, you should vacuum furniture, rugs, and floors.
- Wash all recently used bedding & washable clothing in hot water, then dry on hot cycle for 20 minutes.
- Heat pillows, blankets, or other fabric items in clothes dryer at hottest cycle for 20 minutes. If dryer is not available, or for items that cannot be laundered with hot water, these items can be kept in a plastic bag for 10 days, if there is a concern about lice having crawled from an infested child onto these items.
- Clean child's combs, brushes, and other hair accessories such as clips and barrettes in hot water for 5 minutes; or solution of 1/4 cup bleach in 1 gallon of water for at least 10 minutes.
- Spraying an insecticide on furniture, rugs, or pets is **not** recommended.
- Head lice can spread as long as lice or nits remain alive on the infested person, clothing or furniture so it is important that all these things be done on the same day to prevent re-infestation.

RE-ADMISSION:

Before your child returns to the classroom, accompany your child to the office with this completed and signed form. Trained office staff will check your child before re-admission. If no live lice are found, child may return to class. If live lice are present, child will not be re-admitted to school and additional treatment steps will be discussed.

Date of first treatment: _____

Name of Lice Control Product: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____