



Lake Worth Independent School District

6805 Telephone Road
Lake Worth, Texas 76135

Phone (817) 306-4200
Fax (817) 238-6547

Lake Worth Independent School District Pediculosis (Lice) Notice

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Your child may have been exposed to head lice from another student. Please examine your child's hair and scalp for evidence of live lice, or nits (egg casings left behind after lice hatch). Lice and eggs are most frequently found close to the scalp, while nits are found at the nape of the neck, behind the ears, or under ponytails. If you find lice, or nits, then please notify the school nurse at (817) _____, and your child's daycare or individuals with whom your child may have had close contact. Lice should be treated as soon as possible to minimize the spread to other individuals. **District policy excludes from attendance students with live lice.**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommend, among other things, that an active lice infestation be treated with medicated shampoo, and that nits be removed using the nit comb that comes with the shampoo. Medicated shampoo can be purchased at many pharmacy or grocery stores. The presence of head lice is not a serious medical condition, but needs diligent parental cooperation to treat. **Therefore, we ask that you check your child's hair daily for two weeks.**

Things to look for when examining your child's scalp:

- Head lice are very small, crawling insects approximately 1/8th of an inch long.
- Head lice do not fly or jump.
- Nits range in color from brown to grayish-white, are teardrop shaped, and can be attached anywhere on the hair strand.
- Nits can be differentiated from hair care residue (e.g. hair spray and gel) because nits firmly cement to the hair shaft and cannot be brushed or flicked out of the hair. Hair care residue such as hairspray, gel, or dandruff can be easily removed from the hair without treatment and use of a nit comb.

Additional information can be found at: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/schoolhealth/lice.shtm> and <http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/treatment.html>. If head lice, eggs or nits are found in your child's hair, please notify your child's school nurse as soon as possible for instructions on care and re-entry into the classroom.

Sincerely,

School Nurse

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LAKE WORTH ISD VISION: LWISD – a learning community that fosters thinkers, contributors, competitors, and leaders.

LAKE WORTH ISD MISSION STATEMENT: LWISD will engage, challenge, and empower--every student every day.