
LICE AND NIT POLICY FOR FOOTHILL HORIZONS OUTDOOR SCHOOL

Lice has become an increasing problem at Foothill Horizons. Sending a child home with lice from Foothill Horizons ruins their one Outdoor Ed experience and also is devastating for children socially. Despite our best attempts to maintain privacy, children are often teased for having lice.

It is our policy that if a child has an active case of lice, they must go home. This policy is different from school policy because students sleep together in the same dormitory. In the dorm, children are in close quarters and often share hair brushes and other items. Lice can easily spread from child to child in a dormitory. Thus our policy is to send home any child with an active case of lice.

We are now requiring **any schools with any incidences of lice during the school year in the affected grade level to, inspect all children before attending** using the following method:

1. Inspect all students for lice a few days before attending outdoor ed.
2. Any child found with lice will then need to treat their case of lice before attending Outdoor Ed with an over the counter product approved by the FDA for the treatment of head lice. We encourage schools to have treatment readily available for students.
3. Inspect children with any known cases on the day they depart from school

This process will allow children and families to treat lice before attending; thereby reducing the number of active cases of lice while at Foothill Horizons.

An active case of lice is defined as:

- Presence of live lice
- Presence of nits close to the head that appear viable with no commercial treatment within the past week.

Children found with the following will be allowed to stay and are considered an inactive case of lice

- Presence of nits that have been treated with commercial treatment within the past week.
- Presence of few nits far from scalp (ie not viable)
- Dandruff

If a child has as active case of lice, Foothill Staff will inspect every child in the dorm for lice. If more children are found with an active case of lice, we will inspect every child from the affected school. We will also work with the participating school to notify families if another child in their child's dorm had an active case of lice. We then vacuum all affected areas at Foothill to ensure a clean facility for all.