



Stephens County School System

Schools Committed to Student Success

Dr. Connie Franklin
Superintendent of Schools
connie.franklin@stephenscountyschools.org

Administrative Offices
191 Big A School Road, Toccoa, GA 30577
(706) 886-9415

Stephens County School System Head Lice Procedures/Guidelines

1. Mass screenings for lice will not be utilized.
2. Parents are encouraged notify the school nurse if lice and/or nits have been identified and/or treated at home. The school nurse may provide treatment information to the parent/guardian.
3. Students exhibiting signs and symptoms of head lice will be referred to the school nurse. Possible symptoms include: itchy scalp, tiny gray or brown bugs in the hair, tiny yellow/white or brown eggs directly attached to the hair (nits), and/or scalp rash.
4. **If evidence of lice and/or nits are observed by the school nurse**, the school nurse will call the parent/guardian to discuss the following items and provide written documentation.
 - a. There is **not** a “No Nit” policy.
 - b. **Nits Only**: The parent may choose to pick up the student immediately if “nits only” are observed, which will count as excused. If the parent cannot be reached by telephone, the school nurse will log the attempted telephone call and send home written notice with the student including Procedures/Guidelines, Parent Letter, and Lice Information.
 - c. **Nits Only**: The parent may choose for the student to finish the school day and have the same mode of transportation (ex. Ride the bus home as usual; be a car rider as usual).
 - d. **Nits Only**: Parents with students who have “nits only” may elect to utilize the next day as an excused absence to provide treatment for their child. This is not required for “nits only”.
 - e. **Live Lice**: The school nurse will provide written notice of screening for Head Lice and procedures.
 - f. **Live Lice**: If live lice are observed by the school nurse, then the parent should begin immediate treatment. The school nurse will contact the parent/guardian (or other available authorized person when the parent is unavailable) to pick up the student from school. **Absences in excess of 2 school days for head lice treatment will be unexcused unless a doctor’s excuse is provided.** The student will be restricted from school activities (i.e. sharing hats, clothing, contact sports, etc.) involving close contact for the remainder of the day and until evidence of treatment (i.e. receipt from store of over-the-counter treatment, specific written statement of treatment signed by the parent, Dr. excuse, etc.) has been provided by the parent/guardian.
 - g. **Live Lice**: The parent must bring the student to school after treatment and allow the nurse to re-screen the student for live lice. If no live lice are observed upon return, then the student may proceed to class. The Parent Attestation of Head Lice Treatment and School Nurse Screening for Re-admittance to School Form should be completed by the parent and the school nurse.
 - h. **Live Lice**: Parents have the responsibility of checking and re-checking children’s hair to ensure that nits are diminishing over a period of 7-10 days. All infestations should be retreated in 7-10 days to deactivate any remaining lice from the initial treatment.
 - i. **Live Lice**: If the students have siblings at the same school or at another school within the district, the school nurse will screen siblings and/or contact the school of the sibling(s) to inform their school nurse and advise screening.
 - j. **Live Lice**: **Chronic head lice infestations, as determined by the school nurse, may be referred to the school social worker. Attendance Protocol will be followed for chronic absences.**
5. **Live Lice**: The school nurse should send a letter to classmates’ parents/guardians providing notification to check for head lice due to suspected cases within the same class when live lice are observed.



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Parent Notice of Head Lice Referral and Screening

Dear Parents/Guardians of: _____

Date: _____

It was reported to the school nurse that your student exhibited signs and symptoms of head lice. Upon being screened by the school nurse according to school system screening procedures, live lice have been observed. Your child cannot attend school with live lice. It is important that you act immediately to prevent their spread to other members of your family and to others in close contact. **Your child will be readmitted to school by the school nurse after:**

1. Evidence of treatment (i.e. receipt from store of over-the-counter treatment, empty treatment bottles, specific written statement of treatment signed by the parent, and/or a Dr. excuse) has been provided by the parent/guardian.

AND

2. Parent accompaniment of the student to the school after treatment to be re-screened for live lice by the school nurse with a result of no observation of live lice.

Upon returning to school, your child will be re-examined for lice during the following two weeks.

School absences in excess of 2 days for lice treatment will be unexcused unless otherwise excused by a physician. If you are having problems with recurrent head lice, please feel free to contact your physician.

To eliminate head lice in your home the following steps should be taken immediately:

1. Everyone in the household should be checked for live lice and nits for two weeks, then randomly.
2. Treat each family member that is infested (do not treat unless there are live lice or eggs present). **Treatment does not prevent lice infestation.** You can find safe medicated shampoos and products at any local drug store or grocery store. When used as directed, these products will kill the lice. Remove nits as much as possible by combing through the hair strands with a fine tooth comb (most kits come with this).
3. Delouse all personal items such as brushes, hats, bows, hair bands, clothing, bed linen and towels by washing them in **hot water** with a strong detergent.
4. Items unable to be laundered should be vacuumed and/or steam cleaned (mattresses, furniture, carpets, pillows, rugs, the car, etc). Such things as dolls, toys, teddy bears, and other non-washable items may be placed in large plastic bags, sealed and left at room temperature for two weeks.
5. Eggs (nits) hatch in 7-10 days. Therefore, a repeat shampoo may be necessary within 10 days.
6. Also, please refer to the attached Stephens County School System Head Lice Procedures and Head Lice Information documents as well the Stephens County School System Health Services Webpage, <https://www.stephenscountyschools.com/departments/student-services/health-services>.

School Nurse: _____ Telephone Number: _____
Email Address: _____



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Parent Notice of Head Lice Referral and Screening

(No Live Lice Observed)

Dear Parents/Guardians of: _____

Date: _____

It was reported to the school nurse that your student exhibited signs and symptoms of head lice. Upon being screened by the school nurse, it was determined that:

_____ No nits or live lice were observed. Please check your child at your discretion.

_____ Only nits were observed. Please check your child at your discretion.

Delousing Guidelines:

- Everyone in the household should be checked for live lice and nits for two weeks, then randomly.
- Treat each family member that is infested (do not treat unless there are live lice or eggs present). **Treatment does not prevent lice infestation.** You can find safe medicated shampoos and products at any local drug store or grocery store. When used as directed, these products will kill the lice. Remove nits as much as possible by combing through the hair strands with a fine tooth comb (most kits come with this).
- Delouse all personal items such as brushes, hats, bows, hair bands, clothing, bed linen and towels by washing them in **hot water** with a strong detergent.
- Items unable to be laundered should be vacuumed and/or steam cleaned (mattresses, furniture, carpets, pillows, rugs, the car, etc). Such things as dolls, toys, teddy bears, and other non-washable items may be placed in large plastic bags, sealed and left at room temperature for two weeks.
- Eggs (nits) hatch in 7-10 days. Therefore, a repeat shampoo may be necessary within 10 days.

Please feel free to review the attached Stephens County School System Head Lice Procedures and Head Lice Informational hand out which as some helpful website regarding head lice.

School Nurse: _____ Date: _____



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Parent Attestation of Head Lice Treatment and School Nurse Screening for Re-admittance to School

Student(s): _____

Date(s) of Treatment: _____

Treatment Method: _____

My student(s) has been treated for head lice and is ready to be re-screened by the school nurse for re-admittance to school. Please excuse my student for the allowable days related to the Stephens County School System Head Lice Procedures. If my student(s) were treated by a physician, I have attached the physician's excuse.

Printed Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

School Nurse Re-screen for Head Lice and Re-admittance to School Attestation

- _____ Parent/Guardian accompanied student to school after treatment.
- _____ Evidence of treatment presented (Attestation Above, OTC bottles/receipts, Dr. Excuse, etc.)
- _____ No live lice were observed. The student may return to class.
- _____ Live lice were observed. The student must return to the care of the parent/guardian.

School Nurse Signature: _____ Date: _____

In the absence of the school nurse:

School Administrator: _____ Date: _____



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PARENT NOTICE OF STUDENT PROXIMITY TO SUSPECTED CASE(S) OF HEAD LICE

Parent(s)/Guardian(s): _____

Student(s): _____ Date: _____

Your student was reported as potentially being in proximity to a suspected case of head lice at school. Please review the information below regarding head lice and feel free to implement as you see fit or consult with your physician. Please feel free to contact me at your discretion.

Helpful Resources Regarding Head Lice:

- **CDC – Lice Information** – <http://cdc.gov/parasites/lice/index.html>
- **Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta** - <https://www.choa.org/-/media/Files/Childrens/medical-professionals/nursing-resources/headlice.pdf?la=en&hash=CC6697B231D0101702CC7D0169A17A35B3C9F444>
- **Georgia Department of Public Health: Insects and Diseases:** <https://dph.georgia.gov/environmental-health/insects-and-diseases#:~:text=Lice%20are%20parasites%20of%20warm,%22trauma%22%20of%20the%20infestations.>
- **Georgia Department of Public Health, Office of Nursing, Protocols:** (<https://dph.georgia.gov/document/document/nurseprotocolmanual20207152020002pdf/download>)
- **Stephens County School System Health Services Webpage:** <https://www.stephenscountyschools.com/departments/student-services/health-services>

Delousing Guidelines:

- Everyone in the household should be checked for live lice and nits for two weeks, then randomly.
- Treat each family member that is infested (do not treat unless there are live lice or eggs present). **Treatment does not prevent lice infestation.** You can find safe medicated shampoos and products at any local drug store or grocery store. When used as directed, these products will kill the lice. Remove nits as much as possible by combing through the hair strands with a fine tooth comb (most kits come with this).
- Delouse all personal items such as brushes, hats, bows, hair bands, clothing, bed linen and towels by washing them in **hot water** with a strong detergent.
- Items unable to be laundered should be vacuumed and/or steam cleaned (mattresses, furniture, carpets, pillows, rugs, the car, etc). Such things as dolls, toys, teddy bears, and other non-washable items may be placed in large plastic bags, sealed and left at room temperature for two weeks.
- Eggs (nits) hatch in 7-10 days. Therefore, a repeat shampoo may be necessary within 10 days.

School Nurse: _____ Date: _____