

**Tumwater School District
Procedures**

PROCEDURES FOR LICE TREATMENT

School Management

1. The building administrator will designate one/two staff other than a nurse to be trained and available in cases of head lice.
2. Suspected cases of head lice will be referred to trained school staff.
3. If students are identified with live lice by the presence of lice, trained school staff should complete the following by the end of the school day:
 - ✓ Notify parent of the child with live lice and discuss parent pick up so lice treatment can be started. Inform parent that the Parent Letter Head Lice will be sent home with the affected child. Student may remain in school until the end of the day if parent cannot be reached or cannot respond. Student will be told to avoid head-to-head or close head contact.
 - ✓ If applicable, screen siblings or close contacts for lice, or notify their school.
 - ✓ Complete student specific Skyward Office Visit entry for head lice check and outcomes.
 - ✓ Send home Parent Letter Head Lice with the affected student.
4. Trained school staff will do a re-entry lice check after treatment is done and a head check 7-10 days after re-entry. Rationale: two treatments at home 7-10 days apart are designed to eliminate all live lice, and any lice that may hatch from eggs that were laid prior to the first treatment and not combed out.
5. Notify parent of the head check finding(s) and any need for follow-up at home.
6. Routine or periodic classroom screenings are no longer recommended. If there is an extended problem or circumstance, the school nurse, in conjunction with the principal, may send a standard letter home with suggestions to parents for detection, prevention and appropriate treatment of head lice.
7. All students will be able to ride the bus as usual and they will be advised to avoid close head contact.

Parent Management

- ✓ Check your child routinely before school starts in the fall and before returning from school breaks.
- ✓ Contact the school Wellness Center if you know or suspect that your child has lice.
- ✓ If a family member has live lice, all household members and other close contacts should be checked, and those with live lice should also be treated at the same time.
- ✓ There are a number of available lice treatments, including new prescription treatment options. It is important to talk with your child's health care provider or a pharmacist to discuss treatment choices. Be careful to follow the directions on the box or lice treatment container. There is no evidence that home remedies using

common products (e.g., salad oils, mayonnaise, Vaseline, mouth wash, hair dye, kerosene) are effective.

- ✓ With most brands of lice treatment shampoo, a repeat treatment in 7-10 days is needed. This is because while the shampoo will kill the live lice, many of the eggs or nits survive. The repeat treatment will kill the newly hatched lice. Again, follow the advice of your health care provider or the labeled instructions of the lice treatment when it comes to deciding to retreat.
- ✓ Please note that the Parent Letter Head Lice gives actions that can be done at home to control the spread of lice including:
 - Family bed linens and recently used towels, clothes and hats that have been exposed to lice should be washed in a washer and dryer with a temperature of at least 130° F. Using hot water in a washer and drying on the hot setting kills lice.
 - Toys, stuffed animals, and bedding that cannot be washed can be sealed in a plastic bag for at least 10 days.
 - Vacuum floors, carpets, mattresses and furniture.
 - The use of chemical sprays or “bug bombs” to treat the environment is not recommended due to potential toxicity, harm to humans, and their lack of effectiveness.
- ✓ If you or the school finds lice, please know your child may return to school the next school day after treatment. Any absences beyond one day for live lice treatment will be addressed per district policy for school attendance and absences found in the annual Tumwater School District/Student Handbook and website.

A staff member trained to do a lice exam will check your child’s head to make sure there are no live lice and progress has been made on combing. An adult can bring the child to school to meet with the school staff on the return to school.

- ✓ Please continue combing for nits daily for 2-3 weeks.

References:

- American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Updates Treatments for Head Lice. (2015, April 27), retrieved 11/13/15 from <https://www.aap.org/en-us/about-the-aap/aap-press-room/pages/AAP-Updates-Treatments-for-Head-Lice.aspx>
- Head Lice Information for Schools. (2015, September 2). Retrieved November 13, 2015, from <http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/schools.html>
- Head Lice, Infectious Disease Control Guide, page 83-85 (2014). Retrieved 2015 www.k12.wa.us/HealthServices/pubdocs/InfectiousDiseaseControlGuide.pdf
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- Pediculosis Management in the School Setting Position Statement. (2011) retrieved 11/14/15, from www.nasn.org/PolicyAdvocacy/PositionPapersandReports/NASNPositionStatementsFullView/tabid/462/ArticleId/40/Pediculosis-Management-in-the-School-Setting-Revised-2011

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